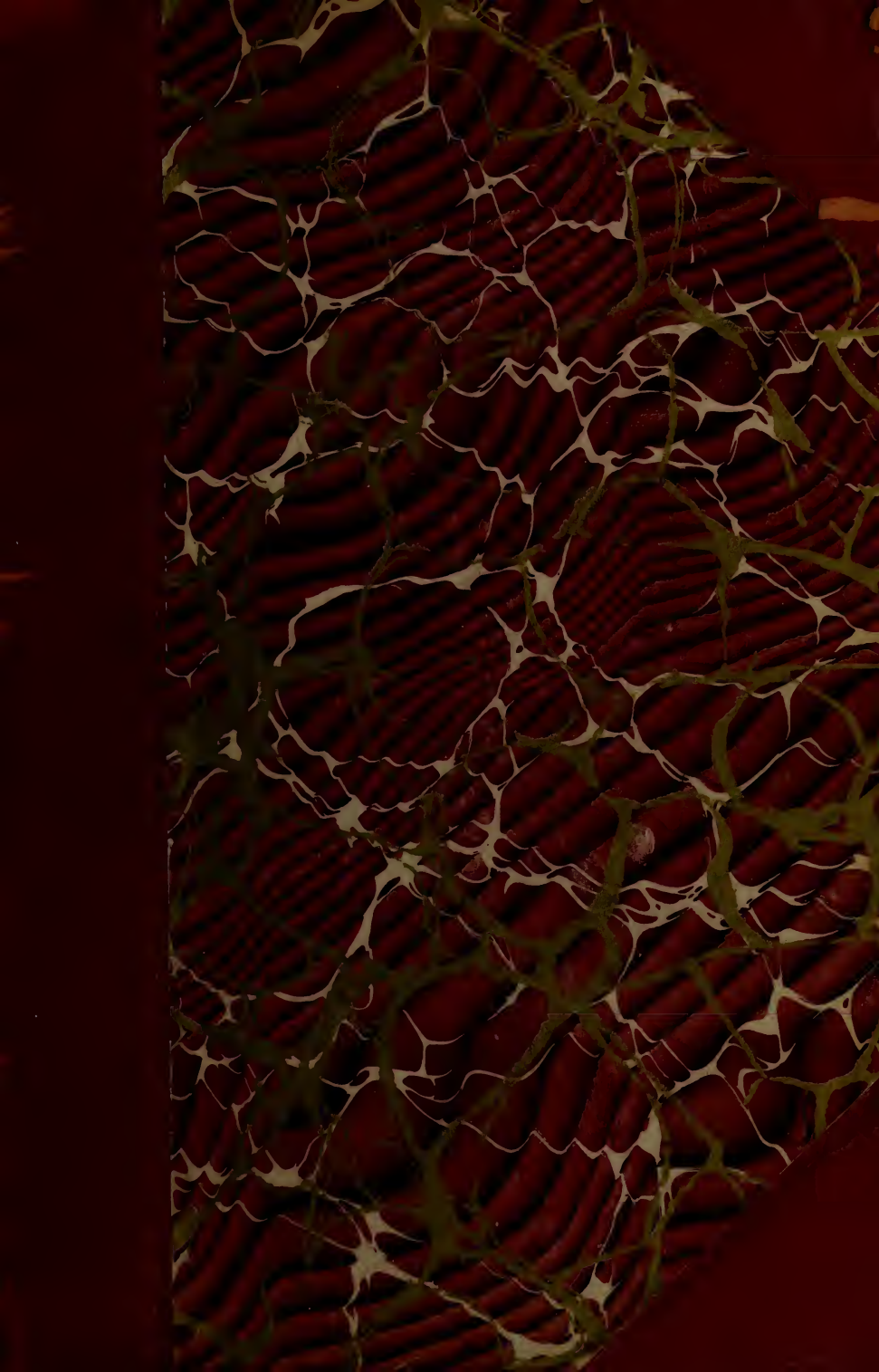


Edgar G. (Ted) Burton
Memorial Collection
Tecumseth Chapter
R.A.M. Nº 264 G.R.C.

PROPERTY OF
GRAND LODGE LIBRARY

Please return to:
363 King Street West
Hamilton ON L8P 1B4

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF CANADA

At the Forty-Third Annual Convocation

1901

1901

HELD IN

THE MASONIC HALL, TEMPLE BUILDING,
CITY OF TORONTO, ONT.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23RD, A.D. 1901
A.I. 2431, A.L. 5901.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED

WILLIAM GIBSON, Beamsville, Ont.,
Grand Z.

GEO. J. BENNETT, Toronto,
Grand Scribe E.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVOCATION OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA, HELD IN THE MASONIC HALL, TEMPLE BUILDING, CITY OF TORONTO, ON WEDNESDAY, THE 23RD JANUARY, A.D. 1901, A.I. 2431.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	W. G. Reid	Grand Z.	Grand Council on The Throne.
R. " "	W. Gibson	Grand H.	
R. " "	A. Shaw	Grand J.	
R. " "	Geo. J. Bennett	Grand Scribe E.	
R. " "	Alex. Findlay	Grand Scribe N.	
R. " "	Hugh Murray	Grand Treasurer.	
R. " "	J. J. Thompson	Grand Prin. Sojourner.	
R. " "	W. J. McAllister	Grand Registrar.	
V. " "	H. Wellbanks	Grand 1st Asst. Sojourner.	
V. " "	Spencer Love	Grand 2nd Asst. Sojourner.	
" "	W. A. McKay	Grand Sword Bearer.	
" "	W. J. Sutherland	as Grand Master 1st Veil.	
" "	W. A. Buchner	as Grand Master 2nd Veil.	
" "	Jas. Glanville	as Grand Master 3rd Veil.	
" "	Geo. Moore	as Grand Master 4th Veil.	
" "	S. Y. Taylor	as Grand Standard Bearer.	
" "	W. H. Robinson	Grand Dir. of Ceremonies.	
" "	N. J. Fraid	Grand Organist.	
R. " "	J. W. Jones	as Grand Pursuivant.	
" "	A. D. Harkness	as Grand Steward.	
" "	Francis Blackburn	as Grand Steward.	
" "	Alex. Gibson	as Grand Steward.	
" "	J. A. Phillips	as Grand Steward.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	J. D. Balfour, M.D., London	London	Dist.	No.	2
" "	W F. Miller, Hamilton	Hamilton	"	"	5
" "	Chris. McLellan, Stratford	Huron	"	"	6
" "	J. A. Grobb, St. Catharines	Niagara	"	"	7
" "	J. Wesley Jones, Toronto	Toronto	"	"	8
" "	W. G. Coulter, Port Hope	Ontario	"	"	10
" "	J. Earl Halliwell, Stirling	Pr. Edward	"	"	11
" "	Jonathan Greene, Brockville	S. Lawrence	"	"	12
" "	Nelson W. Cleary, Renfrew	Ottawa	"	"	13

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

R. E. Comp.		John McLaren, Orangeville	Arkansas.
R.	"	A. Shaw, Kingston	Connecticut.
R.	"	T. C. Macnabb, Chatham	Delaware.
R.	"	Hugh Murray, Hamilton	Dist. of Columbia.
M.	"	R. B. Hungerford, London	Georgia.
R.	"	Wm. Forbes, Grimsby	Illinois.
R.	"	D. H. Martyn, M D., Kincardine	Indian Territory.
R.	"	C. W. Postlethwaite, Toronto	Iowa.
R.	"	W. Walker, Toronto	Kentucky.
R.	"	B. Allen, Toronto	Maine.
R.	"	J. E. Harding, Lindsay	Massachusetts.
R.	"	W. Gibson, Beamsville	Missouri.
M.	"	J. Ross Robertson, Toronto	Nebraska.
M.	"	J. J. Mason, Hamilton	Nevada.
R.	"	Jas. Sutherland, Woodstock	New Brunswick.
R.	"	J. S. Dewar, London	New Hampshire.
R.	"	Jas. Wilson, Toronto	North Carolina.
R.	"	D. F. MacWatt, Sarnia	Quebec.
M.	"	M. Walsh, Ingersoll	Rhode Island.
R.	"	J. K. Kerr Toronto	Scotland.
R.	"	E. T. Malone, Toronto	Texas.
R.	"	J. B Nixon, Toronto	Vermont.
M.	"	W. G. Reid, Hamilton	Victoria.
R.	"	Alex. Patterson, Toronto	Virginia.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the forty-third annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in AMPLE FORM at 11.30 o'clock a.m.

R. E. Companion William Roaf, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there are 94 warranted Chapters and 5 U. D. on the roll of Grand Chapters, of which number 73 were represented by the following Companions :—

No. 1. *Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston.*

R. E. Comp. A Shaw, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 2. *The Hiram, Hamilton.*

E. Comps. Henry Sache, Z.; A. W. Peene, J.; Geo. Moore and R. E. Comp. Fred Walter, P.Z's.

No. 3. *St John's, London.*

E. Comps O. Elwood, Z. ; D. Fraser, J. ; R. E. Comps. J. S. Dewar, Alex. Findlay and J. D. Balfour, P.Z's.

No. 4. *St. Andrew's and St. John's, Toronto.*

E. Comps H. T. Smith, Z. ; H. S. King, H. ; Jas. G. Boyce, Jas. Glanville, R. W. Clewlo, V. E. Comp. Spencer Love, R. E.

Comps. W. Simpson, J. K. Kerr, C. A. Matthews and J. W. Jones, P. Z's.

No. 5. *St. George's, London.*

E. Comps. W. A. Buchner, Z. ; S. F. Lawrason, R. W. Evans, R. E. Comps. J. W. Butler, P. W. D. Broderick, A. G. McWhinney, and M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, P.Z's.

No. 6. *St. John's, Hamilton.*

E. Comp. J. J. Wilson, R. E. Comps. W. J. McAllister, W. Birrell, W. Forbes, Hugh Murray, W. Gibson, W. F. Miller, M. E. Comps. W. G. Reid and J. J. Mason, P.Z's.

No. 7. *The Moira, Belleville.*

J. A. Phillips, Z., and R. E. Comp. W. Webster, P.Z.

No. 8. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*

E. Comps. J. A. Carveth, Z. ; E. M. Carleton, W. A. Lyon ; R. E. Comps. E. T. Malone, J. B. Nixon, G. C. Patterson, Alex. Patterson ; M. E. Comps. J. Ross Robertson and Kivas Tully, P.Z's.

No. 15. *Wawanosh, Sarnia.*

E. Comp. J. A. McKenzie, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 18. *Oxford, Woodstock.*

E. Comp. J. Hamilton and R. E. Comp. Jas. Sutherland, P.Z's.

No. 19. *Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.*

R. E. Comp. J. A. Grobb, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 24. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*

E. Comp. Chas. Bews, Z. ; R. E. Comp. Chris. McLellan, P.Z.

No. 27. *Manitou, Collingwood.*

R. E. Comp. W. T. Toner, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 29. *McCallum, Dunnville.*

V. E. Comp. Samuel Amsden, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 30. *Huron, Goderich.*

E. Comp. Alex. Lawson, Z. and P.Z.

No. 31. *Prince Edward, Picton.*

V. E. Comp. H. Wellbank and M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P.Z's.

No. 32. *Waterloo, Galt.*

E. Comp. J. W. Porteous, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 34. *Signet, Barrie.*

E. Comp. G. G. Smith, Z. ; Alex. Cowan, W. J. Hallett, W. J. Sutherland, R. E. Comps. J. C Morgan and D. F. MacWatt, P.Z's.

No. 35. *Keystone, Whitby.*

E. Comps. Fred Hatch, Z. ; A. G. Henderson and Fred'k. Mudge, P.Z's.

No. 36. *Corinthian, Peterborough.*

E. Comps. Alex. Gibson, Z., and A. M. Shaw, P.Z.

No. 37. *Victoria, Port Hope.*

E Comps. H. A. Ward, Z. ; E. J. W. Burton, V. C. Comp. R. A. Mulholland, R. E. Comps. J. W. Quinlan, W. J. Robertson and W. G. Coulter, P.Z's.

No. 40. *Guelph, Guelph.*

E. Comp. H. Mahony, Z. ; R. E. Comps. Richard Mahony and W. D. Hepburn, P.Z's.

No 41. *Harris, Ingersoll.*

E. Comp. Jas. P. Boles, Z., M. E. Comp. M. Walsh, P.Z.

No. 44. *Mount Sinai, Napanee.*

M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P.Z.

No. 45. *Excelsior, Colborne.*

E. Comp. G. E. R. Wilson and R. E. Comp. J. R. Fitzgerald, P.Z's.

No. 46. *St. James, St. Mary's.*

M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 47. *Wellington, Chatham.*

R. E. Comp. T. C. Macnabb, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 48. *St. John's, Cobourg.*

R. E. Comp. R. J. Craig, P.Z.

No. 52. *Prince Rupert, Winnipeg, Man.*

R. E. Comp. John Leslie, P.Z.

No. 53. *Bruce, Petrolea.*

E. Comp. Joseph Belasco, Z.

No. 54. *Palestine, St. Thomas.*

E. Comp. John Belfrey, Z.

No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
E. Comp. Geo. K. Dewey and R. E. Comp. Jonathan Greene, P.Z's.

No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
E. Comp. T. H. Brunton and R. E. Comp. P. T. Lee, P.Z's.

No. 62. *York, N. Toronto.*
E. Comp. D. Robertson, R. E. Comps. William Roaf and R. W. Hull, P.Z's.

No. 63. *Havelock, Kincardine.*
E. Comp. A. Campbell, Z. ; R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, P.Z.

No. 65. *St. Paul's, Toronto.*
V. E. Comp. W. H. Best, R. E. Comps. Bernard Saunders, Benjamin Allen, F. F. Manley, W. G. Eakins, Geo. F. Shepley, Aubrey White, C. W. Postlethwaite, Douglas Ponton.

No. 66. *The Malloch, Seaforth.*
E. Comp. J. W. Hodgins, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 67. *Enterprise, Harriston.*
E. Comp. John Praine, Z.

No. 68. *Maitland, N. Augusta.*
R. E. Comp. Jonathan Greene, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 69. *Grimsby, Grimsby.*
E. Comp. R. Lipsit, Z. ; R. E. Comp. W. Forbes, P.Z.

No. 70. *Grand River, Bracebridge.*
R. E. Comp. Isaac Huber, P.Z.

No. 72. *Keystone, Stirling.*
R. E. Comp. J. Earl Halliwell, P.Z.

No. 73. *Erie, Ridgetown.*
E. Comp. G. W. Moody, Z.

No. 75. *St. Clair, Milton.*
M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, P.Z.

No. 76. *Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls, S.*
E. Comp. J. C. Rothery, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 77. *Occident, Toronto.*
E. Comps. John Drew, Z., A. H. Luke, H., Geo. K. Clemens ;

R. E. Comps. John Hetherington, J. J. Thompson, Jas. Wilson, J. W. Hickson and A. G. Horwood, P.Z's.

No. 78. *Minnewawa, Parkhill.*
R. E. Comp. J. D. Balfour, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 79. *Orient, Toronto.*
E. Comps. E. H. Briggs, G. J. Mason and V. E. Comp Ira Bates, P.Z's.

No. 80. *Ark, Windsor.*
E. Comp. E. C. Russell, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 82. *Shuniah, Port Arthur.*
E. Comp. H. A. McKibbin, J.

No. 83. *Ionic, Orangeville.*
E. Comp. J. A. Glover, Z.; Robert Irvine, J. H. Sutherland, W. Fleming, V. E. Comp. J. C. Browne, R. E. Comp. R. Mann and John McLaren, P.Z's.

No. 88. *Macnabb, Dresden.*
R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb, P.Z.

No. 90. *Golden, Rat Portage.*
R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 91. *Antiquity, Toronto.*
E. Comps. Francis Blackburne, Z., W. J. A. Lake; R. E. Comps. G. J. Bennett and William Walker.

No. 94. *Midland, Lindsay.*
E. Comp. J. W. Wallace, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 95. *Tuscan, Sudbury.*
E. Comp. W. H. McFadden and R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, P.Z's.

No. 98. *Vancouver, Vancouver, B.C.*
M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Proxy.

No. 100. *St. Lawrence, Brockville.*
E. Comp. W. H. Mowat, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 101. *Corinthian, Boissevain, Man.*
R. E. Comp. John Leslie, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 103. *St. John's North Bay.*
E. Comp. John T. Lovell, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 104. *White Oak, Oakville.*
E. Comps. J. C. Ford, H., W. O. Joyce and W. H. Robinson, P.Z's.

No. 106. *Alberta, Calgary.*
M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Proxy.

No 112. *St. John's, Morrisburg.*
E. Comps. A. D. Harkness and H. S. Kennedy, P.Z's.

No. 113. *Covenant, Cornwall.*
E. Comp. N. J. Fraid, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 114. *Bonnechere, Renfrew.*
E. Comp. W. A. McKay and R. E. Comp. N. W. Cleary, P. Z's.

No. 115. *Brant, Paris.*
E. Comp. S. Y. Taylor, Z.

No. 116. *Maple, Carleton Place.*
E. Comp. Peter A. Garvin, Z.

No. 117. *Berlin, Berlin.*
R. E. Comp. A. Oelschlager, P.Z. and Proxy.

No. 118. *North Star, Edmonton, Alta.*
R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Proxy.

No. 120. *Kootenay, Kaslo, B.C.*
M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.

No. 122. *Rossland, Rossland, B.C.*
R. E. Comp. William Walker, Proxy.

No. 123. *Nelson, Nelson, B.C.*
M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Proxy.

No. 124. *Westminster, New Westminster, B.C.*
R. E. Comp. William Gibson, Proxy.

Twenty-five Chapters were unrepresented. Number of names registered 166. Number of votes entitled to be cast 331.

On motion of R. E. Comp. W. Roaf, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. the Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the sessions of Grand Chapter, as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the forty-second Annual Convocation, held in the City of London, on the 24th day of January, A.D. 1900, A.I. 2430, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 24th day of January, 1900, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS.

To the M. E. the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Companions :

We meet under the shadow of a great universal bereavement, one that none here can fully realize, for we have never experienced anything so stupendous, so significant. The glorious reign of her whom every loyal citizen of a vast Empire has looked up to with love and affection, has been closed by inexorable death. The Great I Am has called to his Heavenly Kingdom our beloved Queen, who has ruled over her millions of subjects with wisdom, justice and godliness, and whose noble example will still be a theme for emulation when many generations yet unborn shall have mingled with the dust. May he who is now called upon to assume the great responsibility which his gifted mother has borne with gracious dignity for an unprecedented period, be endowed with all the attributes which made her loved as a monarch and revered as one upon whom the Almighty had set the seal of His Divine approval.

In welcoming you to this our Forty-Third Annual Convocation, I do so with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret. With pleasure that under the beneficent guidance of an All-Wise Providence, I am enabled to congratulate Grand Chapter upon the continued progress of and growing interest in the Royal Craft within the provinces embraced in this important jurisdiction during the past year, and with regret that since we last met, the vacant chair at so many Canadian firesides must remain vacant, nor can the re-union for which aching hearts yearn take place until the final trumpet shall sound and all will meet where partings shall be no more.

The closing year of the nineteenth century has been a period of anxiety, of hopes and of fears. But it has also proven to be the dawn of a new epoch in the history of the Dominion and other colonies of the Crown and brought home to them the living fact of their own greatness.

If we have shared in the glories of the mother land in that far away dark continent, we have also shared in her pain. Many a gallant lad who went out from his Canadian home in the full flush and ardour of patriotic devotion to Sovereign

and country, has either succumbed to disease or found in the paths of glory that resting place which is marked until the great awakening, with the eloquent tribute—

"He like a soldier fell."

Yet He who notes the sparrow's fall has been no respecter of persons in the dispensing of that tribulation which must of necessity follow in the wake of war's devastating progress. Within the palace, as in the lowliest cot, the wail of the bereaved has mingled with the echoes of those who rejoiced in victories achieved or defeats averted. Affliction had visited our lamented Queen as it had stricken her humblest subject. Scions of the noblest and proudest of Britain's ancient houses have fought and fell side by side with citizen and rustic, their identity concealed under a common garb that to each conveyed a similar significance and which may well be discerned in the soul-stirring motto: "For Queen and Empire."

But while victory has smiled upon Britain's banner and the knowledge that she has triumphed in a righteous cause must bring with it a proud satisfaction, yet we cannot but bow our heads in sorrow for the young life blood that has been freely offered and freely shed on hill and plain to accomplish that desired end.

"Gashed with honourable scars,
Low in glory's lap they lie,
Though they fell, they fell like stars
Streaming splendour through the sky."

It is comforting, to us at least, to reflect that among the many members of our Craft who went out with those willing volunteers, but few, if any, were numbered among the fallen, and for these and other mercies our hearts go out in praise and gratitude to the Lord of Battles, "who giveth and who taketh away, blessed be the Name of the Lord."

While we weep with those who weep and rejoice with those who rejoice we are reminded that within our own peaceful walls the shadow of death glides occasionally to remind us that here is not our abiding place. On March 27th, 1900, I received notice of the death of R. E. Comp. George Hyatt, Grand Superintendent of the Niagara District, No. 7. The R. E. Companion was a faithful and devoted worker for years,

and the district at the last Annual Convocation recognized his ability by placing him in the honorable position of Superintendent. Alas, the good Companion did not long survive to enjoy the honor.

I have also been apprised of the deaths of worthy Companions, who in their day were likewise active in the good cause, viz: R. E. Comps. Col. R. Lewis, Robert Brierly and D. McNaughton, Past Grand Superintendents respectively of the London, Hamilton and Ontario districts. Pentalpha Chapter at Oshawa had to mourn the loss of its First Principal Ex. Comp. E. O. Felt.

From our sister jurisdictions across the border have come messages that they too have not been spared and in some instances the blow has been specially severe. In the honor roll of "lights extinguished" will be observed names of Companions illustrious by reason of their constant allegiance to the Royal Craft and who gave to Masonry in general the fruits of the great and cultured intellect with which the Almighty was pleased to endow them. Their life's labors are finished but their life's work lives.

Arkansas—Samuel Wright Williams, Past Grand High Priest, died March 14th, 1900.

W. H. Gee, Past Grand High Priest, died May 28th, 1900.

California—Thomas Hubbard Caswell, Past Grand High Priest, died 13th November, 1900.

Colorado—Thomas Linton, Grand Sentinel since formation of Grand Chapter in 1875, died 11th January, 1900

District of Columbia—Jeremiah C. Allen, Past Grand High Priest, died 2nd October, 1900.

Illinois—Alfred Matthews Warner, Grand Master of the First Veil, died 10th June, 1900.

Eugene LeCompte Stoker, Past Grand High Priest, died 30th September, 1900.

Indiana—Thomas B. Long, Past Grand High Priest, Chairman of Foreign Correspondence and Historian of the Grand Chapter, died 2nd July, 1900.

Iowa—Edward Augustus Guilbert, Past Grand High Priest, died 4th March, 1900.

Kansas—Jacob De Witt, Past Grand High Priest and Chairman on Foreign Correspondence, born at Montreal, Canada, 8th January, 1834, died 28th January, 1900.

Silas Elam Sheldon, Past Grand High Priest, died 19th April, 1900.

Maryland—William H. Clark, Past Grand High Priest, died 18th June, 1900.

Mississippi—William Starling, Past Grand High Priest, died 10th December, 1900.

Missouri—William B. Wilson, Past Grand High Priest, died 18th October, 1900. The deceased Companion enjoyed the unique distinction of having served his blue lodge as Worshipful Master for twenty three years and was first principal of his Chapter for fifteen years.

Benjamin F. Nelson, Grand Chapter of the Host, died 21st November, 1900.

Nevada—Thomas Alexander Menary, Past Grand High Priest, died 19th April, 1900.

New York—Richard H. Huntington, Past Grand High Priest, died 8th February, 1900.

David Fisher Day, Past Grand High Priest, died 21st August, 1900.

North Carolina—Horace H. Munson, Past Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary, died 9th September, 1900.

Condition of the Royal Craft.

From personal observation as well as from information imparted by our zealous Superintendents, I am prepared to announce that at no period in our history has the condition of this Grand Chapter been better nor its prospects brighter. Your Grand Scribe E. who has been in close and constant touch with those Chapters which for long have been, on account of apathy, considered a blot on our fair record makes gratifying announcement that of the five reported as about dead last year by the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry four are again in active working order and may not again be heard of as drones in the hive. The fifth is, I fear, past recall but of these you will hear in detail from the Committee referred to.

Grand Superintendents.

Of these officers generally I have no words but those of praise. Their zeal and attention is quite up to the standard attained in the past by their predecessors. I have, however,

to refer to one instance of a most unusual nature. At our last annual Convocation an Ex. Companion, who was not then present, was selected to preside over a northern district for a year, and the customary notification together with the certificate of election was at once forwarded to him by the Grand Scribe E

Nothing further was heard, myself and others believing him to be working zealously in his district, until December 9th, ult., when similar communications were simultaneously received by the previous Grand Superintendent and Grand Scribe E. from the Companion stating in effect, that he had waited for eleven months for somebody to come and install him into office, as he considered it Masonic etiquette not to make the first advance in the matter. He admitted receiving the notification and other documents from the Grand Scribe E., but apparently had not thought an acknowledgment necessary or that they might indicate a request for further information.

It may be added that during the interval he had been receiving the monthly notices from the Chapters of the district as well as official communications from the Grand Scribe E., and all these, as the year was closing he mailed to his predecessor, presumably for the latter's action.

I was at once apprised of the circumstances by the Grand Scribe E., who forwarded the correspondence and I thereupon wrote to the First Principal of the Chapter to which the Ex. Companion belongs, checking any possibility of an installation at that late date. I also requested his predecessor to assume the duties and put himself into communication with the Chapters, acquainting them with the circumstances and to do what he could in the brief interval that remained prior to the assembling of the Annual Convocation.

I make no comment on this very unusual case beyond taking the opportunity to urge the Companions to be extremely careful in their selections for offices of such importance. Be sure that the Companion is qualified in the first place and that he is willing to serve when selected, in the second.

Vacancy in Niagara District.

By the lamented death on March 27th, 1900, of R. E. Comp. George Hyatt, the office of Superintendent of the Niagara District No. 7 became vacant. Several names were recommended, but before deciding I journeyed to St. Cath-

arines and consulted with a number of Companions who in previous years had served in that position. The result of that conference was that I appointed R. E. Comp. J. A. Grobb of that city to the vacancy, and I am happy to state that he has since reflected honor on the choice.

Official Visitations.

February 8th.—Visited St. John's, No. 6, at Hamilton, when I had the pleasure of installing R. E. Comps. W. F. Miller Grand Superintendent and W. J. McAllister Grand Registrar.

February 16th.—Visited St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter, No. 4, Toronto, and installed R. E. Comp. J. Wesley Jones Grand Superintendent.

March 13th.—Visited Milton and installed the officers of St. Clair Chapter, No. 75.

March 22nd.—Accompanied by R. E Comp. Jones, Grand Superintendent, I visited Orient Chapter, No. 79, Toronto, and was pleased to find a well officered and prosperous Chapter.

April 13th. — Accompanied by Grand Superintendent Jones and a large number of Companions, I visited Newmarket in the afternoon and witnessed the degrees conferred by the officers of Doric Chapter, No. 60, in a creditable manner.

The same evening I visited Occident Chapter, No. 77, Toronto, and saw the R A. degree conferred in excellent style. This is one of the leading Chapters.

April 20th.—Had a very enjoyable evening with the Companions of Aylmer Chapter, No. 81, Aylmer. There was a very large attendance and the work was first class. The Companions on this occasion recognized the unselfish services to their Chapter given by Past Grand Z. Hungerford by presenting him with a handsome travelling case. This Chapter, which is flourishing, is one of the few in the rural districts that did not reduce the fee.

May 9th.—Witnessed the exaltation ceremony in St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65, Toronto, which was done perfectly. The Companions have very comfortable quarters.

May 11th.—Accompanied by R. E. Comps. Miller, Hutchison, McAllister and others, visited St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, Milton. The visitors worked the exaltation degree and

the evening generally was profitable as well as pleasant. This Chapter, I trust, is awaking from a long lethargy.

May 21st.—Visited Erie Chapter, No. 73 at Ridgetown and was much gratified with my reception. This Chapter had declined consent to the Chapter at Chatham to confer the degrees on certain applicants whose residence was within the territory of the Erie Chapter, but to whom the inconvenience of reaching the latter was great. The matter was amicably discussed on this occasion and a satisfactory arrangement entered into.

May 23rd.—Visited London and spent the evening with the Companions of St. George's Chapter, No. 5. A matter of dispute was, I regret to say, not adjusted, as I had hoped, and it was decided to send it on to Grand Chapter.

June 4th.—Accompanied by R. E. Comp. R. Mahony, I visited Enterprise Chapter No. 67, Harriston, when three teams of candidates were exalted by him in his usual impressive manner. This Chapter gives every appearance of being a good live institution and the enthusiasm of the Companions is greatly due to Companion Mahony's fraternal example.

June 15th.—In company with the Grand Principal Sojourner, R. E. Comp. J. J. Thompson, I visited Berlin Chapter, No. 117, Berlin, and was most cordially received by the hospitable Companions of that town. They have elegant quarters and give every sign of being up to date.

June 25th.—With R. E. Comps. A. Shaw Grand J., J. Earl Halliwell, Grand Superintendent, and the Grand Scribe E., I visited Prince Edward Chapter, No. 21, Picton. The Companions there went to much time and expense to entertain and please their visitors and they succeeded admirably. The convocation of the Chapter in the evening was an inspiring sight, representatives from all sections of the district being present. The work in the R. A. degree was simply perfect.

June 29th.—Visited St. John's Chapter, No. 3, London, and was much pleased with what I saw. This is one of the leading Chapters in Western Ontario and maintains a record for progress and perfection.

August 1st.—With R. E. Comp. J. A. Grobb, Grand Superintendent, I visited Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby. This Chapter is well officered and has been doing good work. The installation ceremony was the feature of the evening.

August 16.—This evening was set apart for a visit to

Niagara Chapter, No. 55, at Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Grand Superintendent and myself reached there in good time, but the Companions of the Chapter were not numerous enough to form a quorum.

September 18.—Visited Georgian Chapter, No. 56, at Owen Sound, and was much pleased with what I saw. Under R. E. Comp. McLachlan, this Chapter, is bound to flourish. The Mark degree was well conferred, and the surroundings generally were such as to promise well for the future.

September 20th.—With Grand Superintendent McLellan from Stratford, I visited Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine, and met with a cordial reception. This is an active Chapter, and the work in the R. A. degree as we saw it that night is seldom excelled.

October 1st.—R. G. Com. McLellan was again with me when I visited Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford. The R. A. degree was splendidly conferred on three candidates. The officers and some of the Companions from the Chapter at Parkhill were present and a most enjoyable evening was passed.

October 11th.—Again visited Niagara Chapter, No. 55. I was accompanied by R. E. Comps. Grobb and Burch and E. Comp. Merriman as well as some Companions from St. Catharines. This Chapter is badly in need of an infusion of new blood. With the officers apathetic the Companions can hardly be expected to be enthusiastic. I trust, however, that our visit will have good results.

November 16th.—St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter, No. 4, Toronto, on this occasion celebrated the centenary of Royal Arch Masonry in that city. There was a large attendance of members and visitors. I was accompanied by the Grand Superintendent and Grand Scribe E. and heard an admirable paper read by Ex-Comp. Henry T. Smith, dealing with the event. It certainly was a memorable occasion.

November 20th.—Visited Oakville and spent the evening with the Companions of White Oak Chapter, No. 104. It was the official visit of the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Comp. Millar, but no work was there for inspection. The Companions made up for this in their genuine hospitable welcome.

December 11th.—King Cyrus Chapter, No. 119, at Leamington, is one of the young Chapters, but it is doing well and the officers elected on the occasion of my visit will

I feel sure help its progress. The M. M. degree was worked most creditably. My reception by the Companions was a hearty one.

My final visit was to Antiquity Chapter, Toronto, on the evening of Monday last, the 21st inst, where I installed the officers. It was a memorable occasion as being the last Masonic banquet in that hall at which the toast of "The Queen and the Royal Craft" was announced, and probably the first in which it was honored in solemn silence.

Invitations Received.

In April last I received a cordial invitation to attend the tenth annual banquet of the Fraternal Union of Anointed High Priests in New York on May 2nd. I regretted I was obliged to decline.

On October the 25th and 26th the Grand Chapter of Illinois celebrated its semi-centennial in the Masonic Temple, Chicago. Your Grand Council received most pressing invitations to attend, and with the consent of my colleagues I represented this Grand Chapter on the occasion, which was one that will stay with memory while life lasts. I assure you most sincerely that of the many Grand jurisdictions there represented, none received higher honour and a more enthusiastic whole-souled fraternal welcome than did Canada in the humble person of your Grand Z.

Chapters in British Columbia.

The untiring and unselfish efforts of the Vancouver Companions, notably R. E. Comp. Harry H. Watson and the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Comp. E. E. Chipman, of Kaslo, to advance the cause, are beyond all praise.

The new Chapters at New Westminster and Nelson fostered by those Companions are doing well, and since last annual Convocation the Grand Scribe E. has forwarded to me the applications for letters of Dispensation from Companions at Fort Steele, and Revelstoke, B.C , and Medicine Hat, N.W.T , all of which give promise of sure, if not speedy, advancement. In each instance they were cheerfully recommended by the nearest Chapter supported by the Grand Superintendents who certified that all were fully equipped with paraphernalia, etc., to enable them to fully work the degrees. The admission fee in those new Chapters is fixed at fifty dollars. I need hardly say that

under the circumstances I did not hesitate to grant the several requests and hope to see them secure their charters.

The Chapters already warranted in the Province are a credit to this Grand Chapter.

Scottish Chapter at Nanaimo.

But the achievement of the year, and one for which I cannot personally take one particle of credit, has been the action of the Companions of Keystone Chapter, No. 235, under the Grand Registry of Scotland, and located at Nanaimo for many years, although long existing in a dormant condition. You will probably recollect that since the planting at Vancouver of the premier charter in British Columbia under this Grand Chapter, unavailing efforts have been put forth to endeavor to bring in under our banner the two Scottish Chapters at Victoria and Nanaimo. Successive Grand Superintendents have tried and failed until now.

The prevailing influence for good opened the way for negotiations, and finally, through the good offices of R. Ex, Comp. Watson, of Vancouver, and the present Grand Superintendent, R. E. Comp. Chipman, together with Companion Frederick McB. Young, of the Scottish Chapter, those negotiations have culminated in unconditional surrender.

The following is a copy of the resolution forwarded to the Grand Scribe E. by R. E. Comp. Chipman, Grand Superintendent, sealed and certified by the Z. and acting S. E. of the Chapter

"Keystone R. A. Chapter, No. 236, G.R.S.
"Nanaimo, B.C., November 9th, 1900.

"At an Emergency Convocation of Keystone Royal Arch Chapter No. 235, G.R.S., held in the Chapter Hall, Masonic Hall, Nanaimo, B.C., on Friday, the 9th day November. A.D. 1900, the following resolution, moved by Companion Thomas O'Connell and seconded by Companion Robert Evans, was unanimously carried :—

> "That Keystone Royal Arch Chapter, No. 235, G.R.S., Nanaimo, B.C., surrender its present charter, granted by and held under the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and make application for affiliation with the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada.

"Seal (Sgd.)

"L. T. Davis, *Z.* J. H. Pleace, *Actg. Scribe E.*"

Then follow the signatures of the nine other Companions present. Comp. F. McB. Young, in forwarding the above document to the Grand Superintendent through R. E. Comp. Watson, states that the Convocation was regularly called by summons setting forth the object, and that he had shipped the old charter back to Scotland, together with a copy of the resolution. He adds: "The matter of concessions I presume can be discussed later on."

He further encloses a complete list of the names on the register of the Chapter which makes just twenty-nine and discloses the fact that of the number, eleven signed the resolution, one would not sign, one was in Vancouver, ten were marked "away," presumably had permanently left the place; four are unmarked, which is interpreted to mean that their abiding place is unknown, and two are dead.

The fraternal manner in which the negotiations were begun and continued is clearly manifested in the very pleasing result, and I feel quite confident that Grand Chapter will deal generously with Companions who have thus placed themselves in our charge without imposing a single condition. What may be done subsequently I cannot tell, but I would recommend that they receive their warrant of affiliation, registration, constitutions, etc., free of any charges, and that the membership be not subject to the general per capita tax for two years.

I trust, Companions, that this happy ending in the case of the Nanaimo Chapter may result in a prosperous Capitular body in that city and that my successor in this chair may be enabled twelve months hence to congratulate you on a similar disposal of the Scottish Chapter at Victoria.

By-Laws and Dispensations.

During the year I have approved new and revised by-laws or sanctioned amendments to existing codes of the following Chapters: — Rossland, No. 122, Rossland, B. C.; Covenant, No. 213, Cornwall, Ont.; Vancouver, No. 98, Vancouver, B.C., and Wellington, No. 47, Chatham, Ont.

Dispensations for various purposes were issued by me in thirty-three cases, the Chapter in no instance exceeding the bounds of prudence. They included permission to attend Divine Service, to meet in other than regular hall or on other than regular dates for legitimate purposes, such as installations, and to qualify Companions for advancement in the chairs.

Shortly after our last Annual Convocation, the fine Temple at London where we met was destroyed by fire and everything that the two Chapters whose home was there possessed was consumed. I at once issued dispensations for their meeting elsewhere, and later the Grand Scribe E. informed me that duplicate charters had been engrossed and forwarded to them.

Grand Representatives.

The following Companions were during the year recommended by me to the respective jurisdictions which they represent for a renewal of their Commissions :—

M. E. Comp J. E. Harding, to represent the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

R. E. Comp. R. G. W. Conolly to represent the Grand Chapter of Maryland.

R. E. Comp. C. W. Postlethwaite, to represent the Grand Chapter of Iowa, all near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I also had much pleasure in signing the appointment of R. E. Comp. Richard A. Atwood, of Boston, to represent the Grand Chapter of Canada, near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts.

Restoration M. E. M. Degree.

In accordance with the recommendation endorsed by Grand Chapter at last Annual Convocation for a consideration of the restoration of the ceremonies in the M. E. M. degree. your Grand Council, together with a number of the past Grand Z's met in this city on the 23rd November last. The report of the meeting will be submitted to you later.

Notices of Motion.

The receipt of a copy of a resolution passed by a Chapter in this city has led to the suspicion that the privilege granted by a Constitutional clause of extending the time limit in which to lodge notices of motion, may be taken advantage of for purposes other than that originally intended by its framers, and I would therefore recommend that in future all such notices be submitted to the Grand Council before being printed for distribution to the Chapters.

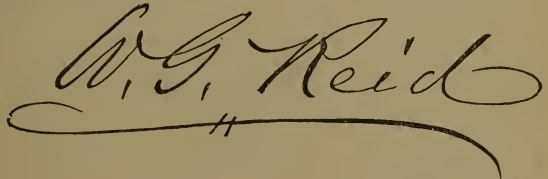
Conclusion.

I have thus accounted to you, Companions, for my stewardship. I am conscious of my many shortcomings, and

there are those who have not been slow to remind me of any I may happen to have overlooked; but to the Royal Craft at large I am beholden for a warm sympathetic kindness which has amply repaid me for any little attentions of that nature. True, I may not reach or ever hope to reach the ideal of some who regard the Chief ruler as endowed with all the virtues and not even one tiny infinitesimal vice, but in a humble way I have honestly striven to be worthy of the confidence you placed in me two years ago, and if the advance is not what it might have been in better hands, it is certainly of proportions sufficient to satisfy one like myself who has not been educated to expect too much all at once.

To my colleagues on the Grand Council, and to the Past Grand Z's, I owe a great deal for their ever ready assistance and advice on any and every occasion when they were required, but my rock and mainstay has been your Grand Scribe E., whose aid and services I have never sought in vain. I know, from my connection with the Chapters throughout this Province and by correspondence elsewhere, that his worth is now widely known and as widely appreciated, and to offer further remarks at this stage would, under such circumstances, be superfluous. All I ask is, that as his value is of some consideration to this Grand Chapter, that it be protected, both now and in the future.

Companions, I again offer to you the full measure of my heart's gratitude for the great honor you conferred upon me two years ago, and I now resign the sceptre to one more worthy, trusting that the Most High may have each and every one of you in His Holy Keeping and grant His blessing on the labours of this Convocation.



January 23, 1901. *Grand Z.*

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were then presented.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In presenting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry for the year 1900, I have one of the most pleasant duties that has fallen to my lot in the fact that I have to report progress all along the line.

My District, St. Clair, No. 1, extends in length from the Detroit River in the west, to the middle of Elgin County in the east, in breadth from Lake Erie on the south to the River St. Clair on the north, and has six Chapters: Wellington, No. 47, Chatham; Prince of Wales, No. 71, Amherstburg; Erie, No. 73, Ridgetown; Ark, No. 80, Windsor; Macnabb, No. 88, Dresden; King Cyrus, No. 119, Leamington. These six Chapters are situated in good Masonic centres and there is no reason why the Royal Craft should not show marked progress in the future, as all of the Chapters as far as I can learn are working "might and main" to outrival their sisters, both in the work and in membership.

The Most Ex. the Grand Z. visited this District on two occasions, and good results were apparent in each case. His kind and genial manner won not only friends for himself, but resulted in bringing Capitular Masonry into prominence, the fruits of which will no doubt appear in the first year of the new century just dawning. I have had a few complaints of encroachment on forbidden territory, all of which have been explained to the satisfaction of both parties. Wellington, No. 47, seems to have been the chief sinner in this respect, but she cannot be chastised too harshly, as she has many charms that are hard to resist, and is easy of access for Companions residing in other jurisdictions, owing to the fact that all railroads reach the Maple City, and I think that if the District was re-arranged

and territory now in other jurisdictions added to Wellington the result would show the wisdom of the action. Of course Wellington would have to relinquish territory she now holds in exchange for that she would get from others.

I had one official act outside of the ordinary, that of certifying to the new by-laws of Wellington Chapter, No. 47, which were duly approved, and are now in the hands of the Companions. Other Chapters in my District would find it to their interest to copy this example.

I have had in view the holding of a Chapter of Instruction and have talked the matter over with a number of the Companions and can hold out the assurance to my successor that he will have no difficulty in making it a success, and it would result in much good.

Taking the District as a whole, it has shown that it is equal to the occasion and does its work well and observes the old landmarks of Masonry, and the true meaning of the "level and the square," are realized, as perfect harmony exists throughout. I will report each Chapter separately, beginning with :

WELLINGTON, No. 47, CHATHAM.—This Chapter shows a marked increase in numbers, no doubt partly owing to the advantages set forth above and also to the fact that it has a splendid and capable set of officers, particularly Ex. Z. Thos. Scullard and S. E. James Birch ; it also has the able an active assistance of Rt. Ex. Companion T. C. Macnabb. The Chapter held ten regular and four emergent meetings and initiated and conferred the other degrees on eleven candidates and has two yet to complete, making a record of about one for each meeting ; the affiliations and withdrawals balance each other, leaving a net gain of eleven. I regret to report so many Companions in arrears.

PRINCE OF WALES, No. 71, AMHERSTBURG.—I have made several attempts to get into communication with this Chapter, but have failed, and therefore cannot give any detailed statement, but I find that they are working away, apparently satisfied with themselves and every one else. I hope that my successor will meet with better results in his endeavors to each them.

ERIE CHAPTER, No. 73, RIDGETOWN.—This Chaptar being my own I have watched it with probably greatet interest than any other, and have seen it "tottering on the brink of

adversity, rise to tread the flowery meads of prosperity." It is now on the high road to become the banner Chapter of the District. Ex. Comp. John Murray, Z., exerted himself to bring it up to the standard, and when he takes a hand things have got to boom, and with the assistance of a loyal set of officers encouraging the Companions the results are apparent in the increased attendance. A wider knowledge of the work among the members revealed the beauty of it, and consequently petitions grew from one or two to ten or twelve in a year, and at the last meeting six first-class petitions were presented for consideration.

The selection of the officers for the first year in the new century has been wisely made, and under the management of Ex. Comp. Moody, Z., with the assistance of the others this Chapter will certainly show a continuation of the good work of the past year. I had the pleasure of installing the new officers of this Chapter, and what is a forerunner of the enthusiasm was that not an officer had to be installed by proxy, all being present and received their respective offices with that pleasure which is bound to result in success. After the ceremony the Companions were all invited to partake of the hospitality of Ex. Comp. Moody, Z., after which the Companions joined in a vote of thanks to him set to the music "For he's a jolly good fellow." This Chapter needs some Constitutions and By-Laws placed in the hands of the Companions.

Ark Chapter, No. 80, Windsor.—This Chapter is in fine standing financially and otherwise, but has a small average attendance from some cause, being only fifteen per cent. of the whole. With ninety members at the beginning of the year, under the able management of E. Comps. E. C. Russell, Z., and A. E. Edgar, S. E., it has increased to 103, a net gain of thirteen, but I am sorry to add that they lost by death two valued Companions. They also have a large amount of outstanding dues from Companions. They held eleven regular and nine emergent meetings to complete their work. The officers are energetic and well skilled and their Chapter has also in its fold among many other enthusiastic Companions, Rt. Ex. Comp. Peters, Past Grand Superintendent of the District, who will not see it lag behind in the race.

Macnabb Chapter, No. 88, Dresden.—This Chapter, with a start at the first of the year of forty-eight members, ends with forty-five, but owing to peculiar circumstances they have

done very well. They unfortunately lost one by death, three from suspensions and one withdrawal, and initiated two, making a net loss of three. The Chapter has a good S. E. in Ex. Comp. Carscallen, and Ex. Comp. Worth, Z., is likewise well skilled and energetic. They also have in their midst Rt. Ex. Comp. W. H. Switzer, who is always willing to assist, and no doubt they will more than make up their loss next year. Their work is well done and the landmarks of Capitular Masonry are preserved.

KING CYRUS CHAPTER, NO. 119, LEAMINGTON.—This Chapter, although the youngest of the six, has the best excuse for succeeding of any Chapter in the District, not on account of it being the "baby," but in possessing a perfect set of officers. Than Ex. Comp. Greenhill there is no better S. E. in the District, looking after the Chapter business as he would his own. Ex. Comp. Coulson, Z., also exerted himself, and the result is shown in the addition to their numbers, having added nine, or a gain of twenty-five per cent., and lost none. They show a large amount due from members, and some effort should be made to square them up. I had arranged to visit this Chapter when the Most Ex. the Grand Z. was there, but illness in my family prevented me, much to my regret; however I have been favored with good reports from other sources. The work is well done and is a credit to the officers. The attendance is very good. This Chapter will give a good account of itself in the future, as renewed interest is being taken in the Royal Craft work, which cannot but prove beneficial in the end.

I cannot conclude without returning thanks to the Chapters for their courtesy and attention to the many matters that have occupied them during the year, and trust that the harmony now prevailing will continue and prosperity will certainly crown their efforts.

Fraternally submitted,

J. G. CROSBY,

Grand Supt., St. Clair District, No. 1.

Dated at Highgate, this 18th day of January, 1901.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 1.

Chapter.		No. of Meetings.		Average Attendance.		No. Members Dec. 31st, 1900.	Initiations and Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals and Suspensions.	Deaths.	No. Members 31st Dec., 1900.	Petitions Accepted.	Degrees Conferred.			No. Members 12 mos. in arrears.	Assets.				Liabilities.	Insurance Carried.	Prospects of Chapter.	Does E. Z. Work all Degrees.	Initiation Fee.	Annual Dues.
Name.	Location.	Regular.	Emergent.	Members	Visitors.								M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A. M.		Cash or	Security.	Dues Outstanding.	Property.					
Wellington..	Chatham	10	4	14	3	47	13	0	2	0	58	13	11	11	11	24	$100 00	$300 00	$190 00	$	None	$200 00	Good	Yes	$15 00	$1 50
Pr. of Wales	Amherstburg	no	retu	rns.																						
Erie.....	Ridgetown..	9	1	16	1	41	5	0	1	0	47	10	5	4	4	29	.....	90 00	71 00	.... .	$50 00	175 00	Splendid	Yes	10 00	1 50
Ark	Windsor....	11	9	16	14	90	17	1	3	2	103	16	15	15	17	49	3 00	.....	344 00	500 00	.....	300 00	Good	Yes	15 00	3 00
Macnabb....	Dresden	9	1	10	2	48	2	..	4	1	45	2	...	...	..		....	.....	45 00	..... .	.....	.....	Fair	Yes	10 00	2 00
King Cyrus .	Leamington .	7	3	11	2	35	2	0	0	0	44	9	9	5	4	10	4 70	.... .	96 00	150 00	43 00	.....	Good	Yes	10 00	2 00

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 2.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I am pleased to report the condition of Capitular Masonry in this jurisdiction is satisfactory. Each of the seven Chapters in this District is progressing favorably and in a healthy condition. Dues might, however, be collected more promptly.

The home of the Masons of London, including that of the two Chapters (St. John's, No. 3, and St. George's, No. 5), was destroyed by fire last winter. Besides the great loss thus sustained by the Chapters they have been much incommoded and handicapped in their work during the year which has just closed.

The Chapters outside of London are well and comfortably housed and have everything necessary to exemplify the degrees. From the loyal manner in which I have been received during my official visits, from the general proficiency of the officers of the seven Chapters and from the keen interest evinced by the Companions generally for Chapter work, I would say the Grand Chapter has good reason to be proud of London District, No. 2.

PALESTINE CHAPTER, No. 54, ST. THOMAS.—I began my official work by visiting this Chapter on May 16th. Several of the Companions from London accompanied me. A number of candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in an able manner. There was a good attendance at the Convocation and harmony and good-will were features of the evening. With its efficient staff of officers and a large amount of good material to select from, the prospects of Palestine Chapter are bright.

AYLMER CHAPTER, No. 81, AYLMER —Aylmer Chapter, No. 81, was visited by me officially on October 12th. I had heard rumors of how these Companions treat a District Superintendent. Before, during and after the Chapter meeting I was prepared, or thought I was, for anything that could befall me in that town. I was met by a deputation at the train and taken to view the Olympian games held in a beautiful athletic park, where were gathered the youth and beauty of Aylmer.

In the evening the R. A. degree was given in the most

perfect manner it was ever my good fortune to witness in this or any other Chapter. What followed I may not speak of, only to say I had several degrees added to those I already possessed. I left Aylmer amply repaid for my visit, and convinced the Chapter was in good hands.

St. John's Chapter, No. 3, London.—My official visit was paid to this Chapter on October 30th. This is the oldest, and still the largest Chapter in the District. It is also my mother Chapter, and my modesty prevents me from doing it justice. All three degrees were conferred during the course of the evening, it being a special Convocation and a working night. The Chapter is presided over by Ex. Companion Wm. O'Brien, than whom no more enthusiastic and zealous Mason ever presided. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which this Chapter operated during the year, twenty-one petitions were received and twenty candidates initiated.

Bruce Chapter, No. 53, Petrolia.—This Chapter was visitedl by me on the evening of November 1st, and I was most oyally received. The manner in which two candidates were exalted showed the efficiency of the officers in a marked manner. During the degree appropriate music was discoursed, which added much to the impressiveness of the ceremony. Companion S. McCann, Scribe E. of this Chapter, has removed to Sarnia, and the Chapter has thus sustained a great loss. I left Petrolia with the impression that Bruce Chapter is a live one, and composed of companionable fellows.

Wawanosh Chapter, No. 15, Sarnia.—I visited this Chapter officially on the evening of November 9th. My welcome was a most loyal one, the officers and Companions showed every mark of respect to the representative of the Grand Z.

The work done during the evening showed the officers to be efficient. The attendance was not so large as at other places, but November 9th was too close to November 7th, election day. I am satisfied Wawanosh Chapter has a bright future before it.

St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London.—On December 15th I visited this Chapter, and witnessed the M.M.M. degree conferred on three candidates. The work was well done and I was pleased the M.M.M. degree was given instead of the

R.A., which is usually selected for the night of an official visit. The election of officers followed, which, with the degree, made a good evening's work. I know from frequent visits to this Chapter that it is officered by able and zealous Companions. I regret to report a lack of harmony and good feeling among some of the Companions during the present year.

I regret exceedingly to report the death of Rt. Ex. Companion Col. R. Lewis, a P.Z. of this Chapter, and a P.G.S. of this District. In his daily walk and conversation Comp. Lewis exemplified the true spirit of Masonry in a marked degree.

MINNEWAWA CHAPTER, No. 78, PARKHILL.—My official round was completed by a visit to this Chapter on January 4th, 1901. The Companions seemed to have taken considerable pains to prepare for my coming and succeeded in making the evening a very pleasant one indeed. Rt. Ex. Comp. Chris. McLellan, G.S., Huron District, No. 6, was present, also Companions from Arkona, Thedford, Stratford, Forest and other places. Ex. Comp. Sutherland and his officers exalted a team in a manner which elicited nothing but praise from all present. After the work of the evening a very pleasant time was spent at a banquet, and I left Parkhill with a very kindly feeling towards, and high opinion of, the members of Minnewawa.

Fraternally submitted,

J. D. BALFOUR,

Grand Superintendent, London District, No. 2.

LONDON DISTRICT, No. 2.

Chapter.			Meetings.			Average Attendance		Membership.								Degrees Conferred			Annual Dues.	No. 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Assets of Chapter.		Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z. Work all Degrees?
No.	Name.	Location.	Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Members.	Visitors.	As per last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Initiations.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Number.	M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.				Cash or Securities.	Property.			
3	St. John's	London	10	7	17	20	5	146	21	20	..	2	..	4	..	164	20	22	25	$2 00	*	....	$500 00	$200 00	$280 00	$150 00	Good.	Yes.
53	Bruce	Petrolia	9	3	12	15	5	94	7	7	..	..	4	..	2	95	7	7	6	2 00	*	*	*	*	*	216 00	Excellent.	Yes.
54	Palestine	St. Thomas	12	2	14	18	2	127	14	13	..	..	2	2	2	134	13	14	15	1 00	14	....	200 00	300 00	88 00	300 00	Good.	Yes.
5	St. George	London	9	4	13	25	6	128	10	8	..	..	..	..	1	136	8	8	8	2 00	45	....	600 00	200 00	207 00	150 00	Good.	Yes.
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	10	2	12	20	0	57	3	3	1	..	..	..	..	61	3	3	3	2 00	6	....	100 00	400 00	25 00	1000 00	Good.	Yes.
78	Minnewawa	Parkhill	7	4	11	13	1	40	10	9	..	..	1	2	1	45	10	10	9	1 50	14	....	102 00	50 00	88 00	.....	Good.	Yes.
51	*Wawanosh	Sarnia	....	..	..	..	....	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	....	.....	....	....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* NOTE.—No returns made.

J. B. BALFOUR,
Grand Superintendent, District No. 2.

WILSON DISTRICT, No. 3.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor, as Grand Superintendent of Wilson District, No. 3, to present my report for the District, which embraces the following Chapters:—Oxford, No. 18, Woodstock; Mount Horeb, No. 20, Brantford; Ezra, No. 23, Simcoe; Harris, No. 41, Ingersoll, and Brant, No. 116, Paris.

I have visited all the above Chapters with the exception of Oxford, No. 18, Woodstock, which it is my intention to visit on 21st January, 1901, before my time in office expires, and I have found that they are generally making satisfactory progress.

Brant Chapter, No. 116, Paris.—This Chapter was reported by the previous Grand Superintendent as practically dead, but I am pleased to be able to state the Chapter is now in a very satisfactory condition, with good prospects ahead of it. I made four visits to Brant Chapter along with Rt. Ex. Comp. S. F. Passmore, P.G.S., and through the united efforts of all concerned it is now on a good footing, having started a fresh. The total membership after reorganization is 27; annual dues, $3; number of members 12 months in arrears, nil; dues outstanding, $12; property assets, $250; insurance, $200.

Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe.—Visited this Chapter June 29, 1900. Attendance, 48, of which 44 were members. The Royal Arch was worked in a most perfect manner. This is without question the banner Chapter of the District if not under Grand Chapter. Present membership, 113; increase of 8; meetings held, 11; dues, $2; average attendance, 25; number of members 12 months in arrears, 15; liabilities of Chapter, nil; assets, $800; $300 cash or security; $500 property; dues outstanding, $150; insurance, $400. Prospects very bright. My visit was a most enjoyable one, being accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. S. F. Passmore, P.G.S.

Harris Chapter, No. 41, Ingersoll.—Visited this Chapter on Nov. 14, 1900, but owing to several attractions in town that night the attendance was small; a very pleasant evening was spent, however, discussing Capitular Masonry, when the

Companions present expressed the opinion that Harris Chapter had very fair prospects ahead. The increase in membership is only one for past year. Number of meetings held, 6; average attendance, 11; liabilities, $60; assets, cash or security, $120; property, $300; insurance, $200. My visit to Harris Chapter was a most pleasant one, being accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Cox, of Paris.

Oxford Chapter, No. 18, Woodstock.—Not having as yet had the pleasure of a personal visit to this Chapter, I am only in a position to speak from the report of same, which is a most satisfactory one indeed, showing an increase of membership over last year of 7; meetings held, 12; average attendance, 18; dues, $2; number of members 12 months in arrears, 28; liabilities, nil; assets—property, $300; cash, $75. Dues outstanding, $88; insurance, $250. Prospects of Chapter, first class; present membership, 60.

Mount Horeb, No. 20, Brantford. — This being my mother Chapter, I have had frequent opportunity to visit same. While during the past year the progress has not been made that was looked for at the start out, yet an increase in membership of four over last year has been made, and with the new staff of officers now in the chairs Mount Horeb has bright prospects ahead of it. Present membership, 69; dues, $1.50; meetings, 10; average attendance, 12; liabilities, nil; assets—property, $800; insurance, $600; dues outstanding, $65; number of members 12 months in arrears, 15.

In concluding my report I might just say that on the whole it has been a very prosperous year for Capitular Masonry in Wilson District. We started the year with 4 live Chapters, and one practically dead, and now close the year with 5 live and sound Chapters in the District, which is most gratifying to all concerned.

I beg to thank the members of Grand Chapter from Wilson District for the high honor they conferred on myself, by electing me to the important and honorable position I have held during the past year, and I trust they will feel that to the best of my ability, small as that may be, I have discharged the duties of the office they honored me with.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

Jno. H. Spence,
Grand Supt., Wilson District, No. 3.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, No. 4.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I beg to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Wellington District. It affords me great pleasure to state that peace and harmony have been unbroken in the District throughout the year, not a Masonic complaint or irregularity having been brought before me. The returns show a slight increase of membership, and that four of the Chapters have done exceedingly well. I have received regularly the notices of Convocations from the Scribes E. of the different Chapters and was consequently kept posted in the work being done in the District.

My predecessor, Rt. Ex. Comp. Leighton, in his report to Grand Chapter, said of Seymour Chapter, No. 38, Shelburne: "I have understood that various efforts have been made in the past for its resuscitation and trust that future efforts will be made in its behalf and these crowned with success." In compliance with this suggestion, I wrote some of the Companions in Shelburne to ascertain their views and wishes regarding the resuscitation of the Chapter, but for some reason I received no reply to my enquiries. On Nov. 16th, the Rt. Ex. Grand Scribe E. wrote me that he had been directed by the Most Excellent the Grand Z. to request me to communicate with the Principals of Seymour Chapter, in accordance with Article 6, Section 16 of the Constitution, and ask them to show cause why the warrant in their custody should not be forfeited. This I immediately did but have received no reply to my official communication. Their conduct justifies us I think in concluding they do not wish, or rather they do not think it wise, to do anything towards reviving their Chapter and saving its warrant. It will now be the duty of my successor to visit Shelburne and claim for the Grand Chapter any property remaining.

I regret that my professional duties have deprived me of the pleasure of visiting all the Chapters in the District, but to make up for this deficiency, my old friend, Rt. Ex. Comp. Mahony, kindly consented to represent me on two occasions, consequently all the working Chapters received an official visit during the year.

WATERLOO CHAPTER, No. 32, GALT, was visited officially by me on the November Convocation, the night of election of their officers. The attendance was very good and the work as far as exemplified was well and correctly done. The finances were in a very satisfactory condition. I was very much impressed with the ability, zeal and personality of the officers and officers-elect, and I will venture to predict for Waterloo Chapter, under its new officers, a continuance of the prosperity and success which has marked the efforts of its present officers. The Companions of this Chapter, who are so comfortably settled in their beautiful suite of rooms, constitute an organization into which any Mason may enter with pleasure and profit.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83, ORANGEVILLE.—Railway communication between Orangeville and Guelph is bad, it is necessary to spend two days in visiting and returning from the former place. My professional engagements hardly permitted me to spare so much time, so I have been prevented the pleasure of meeting the Companions of Ionic Chapter. As already intimated, Rt. Ex. Comp. Mahony visited them for me in November. He reported a most kindly welcome and a largely attended Convocation; the work well and correctly done; the finances in a good state. He considers Ionic Chapter in a most prosperous condition and the returns just received confirm his opinion.

GUELPH CHAPTER, No. 40, GUELPH.—I have had the pleasure and opportunity of frequently visiting this Chapter and can consequently speak of it with no uncertain sound. It is fortunate in having three blue lodges in the city from which to draw material, so work has been fairly abundant. It has had its seasons of depression and expansion, yet upon the whole, it has had a prosperous career. Sometimes and usually through mistaken kindness, its assets in the form of unpaid dues have greatly increased, and its list of members has swelled to large dimensions through retaining names which should have been dropped. However, during the past few months, a special effort has been made to collect outstanding dues and to prune pretty thoroughly the membership list. The attendance upon Convocations has been very good. The officers have faithfully endeavoured to maintain the high standard of efficiency raised by the ability and energy of such distinguished officers as Rt. Ex. Comps. Scoon, Nelles, Hepburn and

Mahony. With ordinary care this Chapter should always occupy a prominent position in Capitular Masonry.

ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, NO. 67, HARRISTON. — This Chapter was honored in the early part of the year by being visited by the M. E. the Grand Z. I was unable to avail myself of the opportunity and pleasure of being present on that occasion. But I have heard that a most enjoyable and profitable Convocation was held. In December I had, as I thought, completed arrangements to visit Enterprise Chapter and assist in the installation of the officers, "but the best laid schemes of men and mice gang aft aglee." At the last moment I was prevented going. Again Rt. Ex. Comp. Mahony came to my assistance and for me, visited the Chapter and installed their officers. He reported a large attendance; work well done and finances most satisfactory.

BERLIN CHAPTER, NO. 117, BERLIN.—I paid two visits to this Chapter in the early fall. On the first occasion the Companions had not got quite settled after their summer vacation. The Chapter had been called off for two months during the hot weather, so from some misunderstanding a sufficient number did not attend to do any work. My second visit happened on an evening when a large political meeting was being held in the town and again we were short one or two. I ascertained meetings had been regularly held in the early part of the year and some work done. The officers informed me they had good prospects for the immediate future, and expected to get the Chapter into working order again at once. The finances were reported to be in a good state. The officers and Companions who were present on these occasions treated me with the greatest of kindness. They appeared to be enthusiastic Masons and expressed their determination to carry their Chapter into its former successful career.

I append a tabulated statement of the returns from the Chapters of this District. In conclusion, I beg to thank the officers and Companions of the District for the very kind reception they gave Rt. Ex. Comp. Mahony and myself when we had the pleasure of visiting them.

Fraternally submitted,

W. F. SAVAGE,

Grand Superintendent, District No. 4.

Guelph, Jan. 10th, 1901.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, No. 4

No.	Name of Chapter.	Meetings Held.		Average Attendance.		Annual Dues per Member.	No. of Members Last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Initiated.	Applications.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Member hip.	Degrees Conferred.			No. of Members 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities of Chapter.	Assets of Chapter.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospect of Chapter	Can Ex. Z. Work all Degrees.
		Emergent.	Regular.	Members.	Visitors.											M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.									
32	Waterloo.....	0	11	15	4	$2 00	..	3	2	2	..	2	..	1	51	2	1	2	24	$ 15 00	$150 00	$140 00	$310 00	$134 00	$250 00	Good.	Yes.
83	Ionic	0	9	13	2/9	1 00	58	7	7	0	0	3	0	0	62	7	8	7	40	nil.	375 00	65 00	300 00	74 00	200 00	Bright.	Yes.
40	Guelph.....	1	12	16	5	2 00	73	5	5	..		1	7	..	70	5	5	4	20	130 00	385 00	25 00	.....	112 00	400 00	Good.	Yes.
67	Enterprise	1	9	19	1/10	1 00	42	9	9	..	..	..	..	..	51	9	9	9	0	0	.....	80 00	.....	15 00	.....	Good.	No.
117	Berlin	....	....	....	....	.....	33	..	2	1	..	..	2		35	....	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	350 00	25 00	250 00	Good.	Yes.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, No. 5.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

As Grand Superintendent of the Hamilton District for the year 1900, I have the honor to submit for your consideration a brief report of the condition of Capitular Masonry in the District.

There are four Chapters in the District, viz.: Hiram, No. 2, St. Johns, No. 6, Hamilton; St. Clair, No. 75, Milton, and White Oak, No. 104, Oakville.

I would be drawing too largely upon my imagination if I were to say that the condition of the Royal Craft in this District was all that could or should be expected and desired. The progress made during the last year in all the Chapters save one, has been discouraging to the enthusiast.

ST. CLAIR, No. 75, MILTON.—I am pained to confess that the condition of this Chapter is far from bright and healthy, in fact it is almost in a dormant state, it apparently being impossible to secure quorums for meetings. I am informed its members have become scattered over a large area of country which renders a regular attendance impossible, but I fancy there are a sufficient number in the immediate vicinity of the Chapter now whose attendance should be more regular if their interest in St. Clair had not waned. I would not for one moment attribute this condition to its present officers, but rather as the result of a gradual growth of indifference and want of interest in the general membership, which should be easily overcome if an earnest effort were made with a determination to gain success, and restore the Chapter to its old-time prosperity.

On the 11th May, I visited this Chapter, accompanied by the Grand Z., M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Rt. Ex. Comp. W. J. McAllister, and Ex. Comps. R. A. Hutchison and J. Logan. We enjoyed a very pleasant evening. The degrees of M.E.M. and the Royal Arch were conferred on two candidates, and from the enthusiasm then shown, I had hopes that good results would follow, but I have reason to fear that my hopes have not been realized.

WHITE OAK, No. 104, OAKVILLE.—Had the honor of visiting White Oak on the 20th November. While this Chapter

has made no progress this year, still there is the healthy, metallic ring of a sound constitution and a hearty cheerfulness in the air that impresses one with the idea that there are no microbes feeding on its vitals, simply a passing lull that will soon give way to renewed effort when the proper time arrives. Although there was no degree work, I am confident the Chapter is well officered by Companions able to confer all the degrees with honor to themselves and credit to the Chapter I had the pleasure of having with me the Grand Z., Rt. Ex. Comp. McAllister, Ex. Comps. Moore, Hutchison and Wilson.

THE HIRAM, No. 2, HAMILTON.—During the year I have frequently enjoyed meeting with the Companions of this Chapter. For energy and push, the officers and Companions of Hiram easily lead the van in the District. Fortunately for Hiram it had in its First Principal a man of ability and progressive ideas who fully grasped the duties devolving upon him, and has successfully demonstrated what a live, energetic officer can accomplish. I paid my official visit to this Chapter at the regular Convocation in November, when the Royal Arch degree was conferred in a beautifully impressive manner, every officer equal to the occasion. I had the honor to preside during the election of officers for the coming year, and was delighted with the unanimity displayed in this very important business. On that occasion Hiram Chapter was honored by an official visit from the Grand Council, Most Ex. the Grand Z., Comp. W. G. Reid ; Rt. Ex. Comp. 2nd Grand Principal, Wm. Gibson ; Rt. Ex. Comp. 3rd Grand Principal, A. Shaw.

ST. JOHN'S, No. 6, HAMILTON.—I have repeatedly attended regular Convocations of this Chapter during the year, and while old No. 6 has done fairly well, in the aggregate she has only maintained her standing of twelve months ago. To be fair and just, if I could call this a successful year's work, I would cheerfully do so. As a member of this Chapter, I cannot accord its officers and members that meed of praise for their energy that I would naturally desire to do. In a Masonic city like Hamilton, I think, that with the record this Chapter has made for itself in the past, it should never be found lagging behind in the race. This want of interest is not entirely due to the officers, but they must bear their share ; the general membership, in fact all concerned seemingly became listless, with a disposition to allow things to drift and accordingly drift it did. Promises are good things if kept, and

we are promised a great revival for 1901. May it come. One of the yearly events in St. John's is Past Principals' night. The 30th of November was selected as the date for the old *has beens* to come out from cover and exemplify that most sublime of all degrees the Royal Arch, and right royally was it done. The strict ritualist of to-day may have had severe nervous attacks, but the force and energy displayed recalled many happy memories of the past, and afforded pleasure to all present.

St. John's has had to mourn the loss by death of three Companions whose public and private worth as citizens and Companions made their demise a public loss and a personal grief to a large circle of sorrowing friends. Ex. Comp. W. Teale, died March 25, suddenly cut off in the prime of life by an explosion in his own factory. This Companion was exalted in December, 1890. By his earnest zeal for the Royal Craft and kindly disposition he speedily advanced from the ranks to the highest office in the gift of his Companions, that of First Principal in 1898. Rt. Ex. Comp. R. Brierly, died Oct. 23, was exalted October, 1867, First Principal 1872, almost immediately after appointed Grand Superintendent of the District. What can I say to fittingly do honor to this grand old man? If I had the ability to properly record his countless acts of kindness to his fellow men, his genius for goodness, his honesty of character, his purity of heart and mind I would fall far short of doing him simple justice, peace to his ashes. Companion R. M. Evans, died Aug. 29, was exalted December, 1875. He was one of Hamilton's most public-spirited merchants, a great big man with a great big heart.

In conclusion, I beg to tender my most sincere thanks to the Companions of the District for the very cordial manner in which they received me on all occasions and to express my deep gratitude for the honor done me, in recommending my appointment as Grand Superintendent, it was unlooked for and unexpected, in fact done in my absence. Before closing, I desire to express the hope that the first year of the twentieth century will be marked by a grand revival of interest in the Royal Craft in the Hamilton District. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Fraternally submitted,

W. F. MILLER,

Grand Superintendent, Hamilton District, No. 5.

January 12, 1901.

HAMILTON DISTRICT, No. 5.

Chapter No.	Name of Chapter	Place.	Meetings			Average Attendance			Membership								Degrees Conferr'd			Finances.						Prospects of Chapter	Can Ex. Z. Work All Degrees?
			Regular	Emergent	Total	Members	Visitors	Total	No. of Members, Dec. 31, 1899	Petitions Accepted	No. of Candidates Advanced	Affiliations	Restorations	Withdrawals	Suspensions	Deaths	No. of Members, Dec. 31, 1900	M. M. M.	M. E. M.	Royal Arch	Dues	No. of Members in Arrears	Outstanding Dues	Assets	Liabilities	Property	Insurance		
2	Hiram....	Hamilton	12	1	13	..		....	154	22	16	3	..	1	1	1	170	16	15	17	$3 00	26	$120 00	$2969 65	$100 00	$550 00	*$1500 00	Very Good	Yes
6	St. John's.	Hamilton	12	1	3	20	7	27	210	13	5	2	..	1	3	3	210	5	5	5	3 00	57	230 00	3762 00	50 00	....	*1500 00	Fair	Yes
75	St. Clair..	Milton ..	N	o	R	et	ur	ns																					
04	White Oak	Oakville .	6	1	7	12	6	18	39	3	..	...	...	1	1	1	36	..	..	2	3 00	17	216 00	50 00	.....	200 00	200 00	Fair	Yes

* Jointly.

HURON DISTRICT, No. 6.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

As Grand Superintendent of the Huron District, I have the honor to submit my report on the general condition of Capitular Masonry therein. Of the seven Chapters which form this District I have visited five, viz. : Tecumseh, No. 24, Stratford ; Huron, No. 33, Goderich ; St. James, No. 45, St. Marys ; Saugeen, No. 50, Mitchell ; and Havelock, No. 63, Kincardine.

I arranged to visit the other two Chapters, Malloch, No. 66, Seaforth, and Lebanon, No. 84, Wingham, but was asked to postpone my visit until after the new year. I am to go to Wingham on Jan. 15th, which will be too late to include in this report and have received no further intimation from Malloch Chapter. This failure to meet all the Chapters in the District has been a cause of much regret to me, as I earnestly desired to perform (at least) that part of my official duty fully, and as satisfactorily as I could. It has been through no fault of my own, however, as the officers in every Chapter in the District knew that I was ready and willing to respond whenever convenient to them.

I am pleased to be able to report that there is perfect harmony, not only between the Chapters in the District but also with those in adjoining Districts. Early in the year, I was notified of some little trouble supposed to exist between Minnewawa, No. 75, Parkhill, and St. James, No. 45, St. Marys, re jurisdiction. Having interviewed the officers of both these Chapters, I am convinced, from the fraternal and conciliatory spirit evinced by all concerned, that the little misunderstanding had been somewhat magnified, and that there need be no fear of anything of the kind in the future. This has been the only case in which I have been called upon to officiate.

Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine.—On the occasion of my official visit to this Chapter we were honored by the presence of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., and the R. A. degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Scott and his staff in a manner that I felt deserving of expressions of high approval, which were heartily endorsed by the distinguished guest of the evening. Havelock is an excellent Chapter and shows the

beneficial results of the skill and advice of Rt. Ex. Comps. Martyn and Hall. The books are well kept by S. E. Comp. McPherson, the financial standing is good and prospects excellent.

Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, Mitchell.—My official visit to this Chapter was a very pleasant and fraternal one. It is the home Chapter of Rt. Ex. Comp. Elliott, and I am sure, benefits largely from his connection with and fidelity to it. He is ever ready to advise and instruct the Companions and the R. A. degree was well and faithfully conferred by Ex. Comp. Thompson and his regular staff.

St. James' Chapter, No. 45, St. Marys.—I was wel pleased with the accuracy of the work done and the general efficiency of the officers of this Chapter; the R. A. degree being conferred by Ex. Comp. Carman and regular staff in a highly satisfactory manner. I was glad to meet here R. Ex. Comp. Sharp, and to find that the Chapter can at all times avail themselves of his Masonic skill and ability.

Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Stratford.—This is my mother Chapter whose meetings I regularly attend and which I also visited officially. Of the work done I can speak highly. On its membership roll are the names of many well skilled and enthusiastic Companions who are regular in their attendance and always willing to assist in the work of the Chapter or to advance in any way the good and welfare of the Order. On Monday evening, Jan. 7th, we had arranged for a joint installation of officers, but as such, it proved a failure, only Saugeen Chapter of Mitchell participating with us. By those present it was considered an attractive and instructive ceremony, and in every way a success, for which result I am indebted to the valuable and efficient assistance of Ex. Comps. McKellar, Mooney and Stuart.

The date was against us, being the day of the municipal elections. This in future will be avoided if possible, and although we may not again attempt a joint installation, I feel justified in saying that that function, in a private form, will always be looked forward to by the Companions of Tecumseh Chapter with pleasant anticipation.

Huron Chapter, No. 33, Goderich.—In this Chapter which I was not able to visit (owing to local circumstances)

until Jan. 3rd, the M. M. M. degree was pleasingly conferred by Ex. Comp. Captain Smith and staff. The work would be more effective if given a little more deliberately. It was a gratifying yet touching feature to have in harness, that faithful veteran in Masonry, R. E. Comp. Radcliffe. This worthy Companion has been sorely afflicted by the almost complete loss of his sight. He has to be led to and from the meetings, but rarely fails to get there, and his zeal and interest in the good cause is unabated. The books are well kept by S. E. Comp. W. D. Tye, but the Chapter is badly handicapped in that many of the members follow a maritime calling which necessitates their entire absence a great part of the year. Nevertheless there is sufficient vitality and fidelity in the Companions of the Chapter to make uneasiness on its account unnecessary.

Besides the official visits recorded above, I had the pleasure of being present at the annual Convocation of Hiram Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton, where I again met the M. Ex. Grand Z., on this occasion accompanied by the Grand Council. This Convocation was indeed a grand success throughout, the R. A. degree being conferred by the Ex. Z. Comp. Moore and staff in a manner to gladden the heart of any R. A. Mason.

I had also the gratification of visiting fraternally, Palestine Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas, and Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, Parkhill, at both of which I was fortunate in meeting our genial and efficient R. Ex. Comp. D. Balfour, at his official visit, he being accompanied by Ex. Comp. Evans, one whom it is a great pleasure to know. It was with all sincerity I congratulated R. Ex. Comp. Balfour on the general excellence of both these Chapters. In Minnewawa especially the work was beautifully and correctly rendered throughout: Ex. Comp. Sutherland as Z. and the worthy Comp. as P. S having the greater opportunities, reaping the greater honor; but *all* being well deserving. This is a most excellent Chapter of which R. Ex. Comp. Balfour may well be proud. It being a rural Chapter does not seem to militate seriously against it. Minnewawa deserves all that can be said in its praise and with the presence and guardianship of such Masonic hustlers as Ex. Comp. McLeod, Dawson, Dr. Caw and many others it must prosper. I would like to mention that during the social period of the meeting, the Comps. presented Ex. Comp. Caw with a beautiful jewel, as a token of sympathy with him in his late loss by fire. Another pleasant and commendable feature

of this gathering was the attendance of some who were not members of the Masonic Order, but very desirable material to become such, and I believe the prospects are that they will join us in the near future. These latter contributed most efficiently to the musical part of the entertainment which was of a very superior character. An old friend, in the person of Comp Dr. Brown, also contributed to this part of the proceedings, having driven from Arkona to attend.

In closing my report, I must again express my deep regret at not having had the opportunity of visiting all the Chapters in the District, and also at the want of interest on the part of Companions generally, as shown by the poor attendance at the regular meetings. Though good and faithful work is being done in every Chapter I have visited, it is done for the most part by the "faithful few." So far as I can learn, we have not the attendance, in any Chapter, that we ought to have, and which the R. A. well deserves, neither have we the number in Capitular Masonry we might reasonably expect in proportion to the number in the symbolic degrees. Can nothing be done to improve matters in this respect?

I thank the Comps. of Huron District for the honor conferred on me at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter, as well as for the cordial welcome received at the hands of the Companions of the Chapters it has been my privilege to visit. The honor has been great, but the task very light. I would gladly have done much more for our noble Order, and shall ever be ready and willing to do everything in my power for its welfare and advancement.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. McLellan,
Grand Superintendent, Huron District

Stratford, January 10th, 1901.

HURON DISTRICT.

Report for Year Ending December 30th, 1900.

No.	Chapter.	Location.	Meetings. Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Visitors.	Annual Dues.	No. of Members as per Last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	Degrees Conferred. M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.	No. of Members 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets. Cash or Securities.	Property.	Total.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z. Confer all Degrees?	Remarks.
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	12	2	14	13	1	$1 50	98	10	8	..	..	2	5	..	99	8	8	7	1	.....	$ 70 90	$300 00	$370 90	$ 39 33	$175 00	Good.	Yes.	
30	Huron	Goderich	6	5	11	14	1	2 00	53	3	5	1	..	..	..	1	58	5	7	8	17	.....	46 55	250 00	296 55	134 00	150 00	Good.	Yes.	
45	St. James'	St. Marys'	6	2	8	12	1	1 50 3 00	27	6	6	1	..	1	..	..	33	6	6	6	.....	$85 00	25 00	75 00	100 00	30 00	.....	Good.	Yes.	
50	Saugeen	Mitchell	9	1	10	11	1	1 50 2 00	26	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	28	2	2	2	7	.....	31 40	100 00	131 40	59 75	.....	Good.	Yes.	
63	Havelock	Kincardine	9	0	9	13	1	1 50 3 00	52	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	55	4	5	5	25	45 00	200 00	300 00	500 00	190 00	200 00	Excellent.	Yes.	
66	Malloch	Seaforth	6	3	9	15	1	1 50	32	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	32	2	2	2	nearly all. (a)	.....	50 00	.....	100 00	77 00	100 00	Good.	Yes.	(a) Until ne meeting when rears will be paid u
84	Lebanon	Wingham	4	0	4	9½	½	3 00	32	1	1	..	..	4	..	..	29	1	1	1	11	.....	75 83	.....	134 58	58 75	.....	Fair.	No.	

I hereby certify the above to be a true copy of the Report of each Chapter as supplied by the Scribe E.

Signed : C. McLELLAN.
Grand Supt. Huron District, No. 6.

NIAGARA DISTRICT, No. 7.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

On April 9th, 1900, I received notice that the Most Excellent the Grand Z. had conferred on me the office of Grand Superintendent of Niagara District, No. 7, made vacant by the lamented death of R E. Comp. Geo. Hyatt. After due consideration I accepted this important office.

I now beg leave to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district, consisting of the following Chapters, namely: Mount Moriah, No. 19, St. Catharines; McCallum, No. 29, Dunnville; Niagara, No. 55, Niagara-on-Lake; King Hiram, No. 57, Port Colborne; Willson, No. 64, Welland; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby, and Mount Nebo, No. 76, Niagara Falls South.

On the evening of July 6th I paid my first official visit to Mount Nebo Chapter, No. 76, Niagara Falls South, in company with a number of Rt. Ex. Companions and Companions of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines. Two candidates were to receive the M. E. M. degree, but as they did not attend, the evening being very warm, we went through the ordinary routine of business, Ex. Comp. Richard Sloggett acting as First Principal *pro. tem.* This Chapter is very fortunate in having Comp. J. C. Hull as S. E., he having the welfare of the Chapter and Companions at heart, and has the books in excellent order, also the dues well collected. The Ex. First Principal and Companions gave us a very hearty and Masonic welcome.

Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby.—My visit to this Chapter was made on Wednesday, Aug. 1st, being accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Geo. Burch, Rt. Ex. Comp. Chas. Burch, and Ex. Comp. Levi Yale, of Mount Moriah, No. 19, St. Catharines. We had the pleasure of meeting the M. E. the Grand Z., W. G. Reid, and Past Grand Superintendent, Wm. Bell, of Hamilton District. We together had the pleasure of installing the officers for the ensuing year. This Chapter has greatly increased in membership during the past year, and its future prospects are of the brightest.

Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines.—This being my Chapter, I have been present at all its meet-

ings, but my official visit was paid on Friday, Oct. 5th, by installing the officers. During the evening the Holy Royal Arch was conferred on a team of candidates by Ex. Comp. Jas. Stevenson, Z.; Ex. Comp. Kilmer, H.; Ex. Comp. Merriman, J., and Comp. Beam as Principal Sojourner. The conferring of this degree did credit to the officers and was in accordance with the ritual of the Grand Chapter. Great praise is due R. E. Comp. Geo. Burch and Ex. Comp. Wm. Smith, for the manner in which they delivered the lectures. Mount Moriah, No. 19, is the banner Chapter of this District. The visitors for the evening were Ex. Comps. Lipsit, Cole and Simpson, the three Principals of Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby. After the closing of the Chapter we were well entertained for the balance of the evening.

NIAGARA CHAPTER, No. 55, NIAGARA-ON-LAKE.—I visited this Chapter officially on Thursday eve., Oct. 11th, accompanied by the M. E. the Grand Z., W. G. Reid, and R. E. Comps. George and Charles Burch, Ex. Comps. Kilmer, Yale, Merriman and Wilson. Was much disappointed with the small attendance, and if it had not been for the assistance of those accompanying me there would not have been enough to work the M. M. M. degree. However, the work was done excellently. Old Niagara may well feel proud of its comfortable quarters, as they have been remodelled with much taste. The M. E. the Grand Z. advised the officers how to improve their Chapter in the work, and tried to impress on them to get the younger Companions to take more interest, which they promised to do. I feel, in the near future, that this visit will bring good results to the Chapter.

WILLSON CHAPTER, No. 64, WELLAND.—I had the pleasure of officially visiting Willson Chapter, No. 64, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Geo. Burch, on Wednesday, Nov. 28th, installing the officers elect. The work of this Chapter in the past has always been good, but owing to loss by fire of their quarters have not been able to do any work up to Nov. 28th. Am pleased to report, however, that they have a beautifully fitted up new Chapter room and have enough work ahead to keep them busy for the winter months. R. E. Comp. J. P. Willson is to be congratulated on the manner in which he looks after the welfare of every Companion in Willson Chapter and out of it.

KING HIRAM CHAPTER, No. 57, PORT COLBORNE.—On Dec. 6th, it being the evening for election of officers for the ensuing year, I visited this Chapter. It has not progressed in the manner I would have liked to have found it. This is mainly because so many of the members are absent from home in the summer months. They have, however, three candidates who have promised to be installed during the winter meetings, and I believe that the showing for 1901 will be much better.

I regret that I have to report a little difficulty that has arisen between Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby, and St. John Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, over an alleged invasion of territory. The complaint was laid by Grimsby Chapter, Grimsby, on January 3, 1901. I intend to bring the matter before the proper committee, and expect it to be amicably settled at Grand Chapter.

In conclusion, I desire to return most sincere thanks to the Companions of Niagara District, No. 7, for the kindness and courtesy extended to me during my term of office, and to express my regret that my business engagements prevented me from visiting McCallum Chapter, No. 29, Dunnville. I am satisfied, however, that a prosperous future is before this Chapter, and that my successor in office will be able to report still greater progress.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. GROBB,
Grand Supt., Niagara District, No. 7.

St. Catharines, Ont.

TORONTO DISTRICT, No. 8.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of Grand Chapter R. A. M. of Canada.

I have the honor, as Grand Superintendent of Toronto District, No. 8, to present my report of the progress of the several Chapters which comprise the District, viz., St. Andrew's & St. Johns, No. 4; King Solomon's, No. 8; Doric, No. 60; York, No. 62; St. Paul's, No. 65; Occident, No. 77; Orient, No. 79, and Antiquity, No. 91.

On assuming the duties of the office, I notified each Chapter of my desire to have visiting throughout the District

adopted as the rule rather than an occasional occurrence, thereby promoting a greater similarity in the work, and a broader and deep-rooted fraternal feeling individually and generally; these points, which are of vital interest to the welfare of the Royal Craft, I am pleased to report, have to a large extent being attained.

My duties have been greatly lightened by the readiness with which each Chapter conformed to any changes deemed advisable, and also by the glad hand of welcome at all times freely extended, for which I extend my sincere thanks and feel that I should especially mention R. E. Comp. P. T. Lee, E. Comps. E. M. Carleton and W. J. A. Lake, who have kindly accompanied me on the occasion of many visits. V. E. Comp. Spencer Love, as District Secretary, has also rendered valuable service.

I am deeply grateful to the M. E. the Grand Z., who at considerable personal inconvenience installed me in my mother Chapter, and also on some four occasions joined me in my visits. While harmony and prosperity prevails throughout the District, yet I would recommend to Grand Chapter the necessity of having a uniform fee for exaltation within the limits of any particular city or town where there is more than one Chapter working.

St. Andrew's & St. John's, No. 4, Toronto.—I feel deeply indebted to M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand First Principal, who very kindly consented to and did install me as the District Superintendent in my mother Chapter on the first regular convocation after the meeting of Grand Chapter. I was present at this Chapter nearly every convocation during my term of office, and select that of September on which to base a report. The R. A. degree was exemplified in keeping with the reputation which this old Chapter has maintained for years, and under the guiding hand of E. Comp. Boyce, his Principals and Scribe E. are particularly worthy of mention, for this Chapter has in Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith, the Second Principal, who I am pleased to say is now the First Principal elect, a hard worker and a Masonic historian. The Scribe E., Comp. Walter H. Blight, is a hustler after dues, and his books are neatness itself; some of the minor officers required a gentle reminder which they received. While this Chapter only advanced four brethren, yet the material was good, and the Ex. Z. cleared the books of considerable deadwood, thereby leaving the Chapter in a very healthy condi-

tion. On November 16th, 1900, it was my privilege to be present at the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of this old Chapter which proved to be the greatest Royal Craft event of the year, and one which was not only participated in by nearly all the distinguished R. A. Masons of the District, and including present and past Grand Chapter rulers and District rulers, who were unanimous in expressing their pleasure and profit at being taken back by Ex Comp. H. T. Smith to the days of the inception of this Chapter in "York" in the year 1800, and brought through the changings of one hundred years to the present day. The Ex. Companion also mentioned dates and other circumstances in connection with the formation of each of the other city Chapters, and named some of the most prominent men of our fair Dominion as having been strong supports of our Royal Craft. I would therefore respectfully suggest that owing to the Masonic interests in connection with this address it be printed with the Grand Chapter proceedings.

King Solomon's, No. 8, Toronto.—King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, was visited by me on April 6th, 1900, at which convocation there were six First Principals present and a goodly number of Companions, showing that the spirit which should prevail in all Chapters stands out prominently in this one, viz., that Ex. Z.'s after having passed the chair do not remain dormant, leaving the ancient workings and landmarks unguarded and subjected to changes. On this occasion the candidates, a number of whom had been accepted, failed to put in an appearance, consequently there was no work, but I learned from the way Ex. Comp. Carleton conducted the business of his Chapter, that he was well qualified for the fulfilment in detail of the duties of the office which he held. I again visited this Chapter on November 14th, 1900, when the M. M. M. degree was conferred on two candidates, and I need scarcely say that I was well pleased with the exemplification of the work by the Ex. Z. and his officers, who were each advanced at the election of officers which was immediately proceeded with, and resulted practically unanimous, and from my knowledge of the respective officers I feel free to predict for King Solomon's a prosperous year for 1901. As a visiting Chapter under Ex. Comp. Carleton they have headed the list.

Doric No. 60, Newmarket.—April the 13th being

Good Friday, I concluded that this would be an opportune time to visit this Chapter, as, on that date, a goodly number of Companions could accompany me; I therefore requested the Ex. Z. to call an emergent meeting, which he very kindly did. Accompanied by M. E. Comp. Reid, Grand Z.; R. E. Comps. J. J. Thompson, G.P.S.; Benjamin Allen, P.G.R.; P. T. Lee, P.G.R., several Ex. Companions, and members of city Chapters, numbering some twenty-two, we journeyed to Newmarket, where we were met and escorted to their Chapter room by Ex. Comp. Thos. Brunton, who in neat speeches warmly welcomed the visitors. On this occasion two brethren were advanced, received and exalted to the degree of the Holy R. A.

The work of the several degrees was done by mixed teams from St. Andrew's and St. John's, Orient, Antiquity, King Solomon's and Doric, and from the creditable manner each officer performed his part the M. E. Grand Z. expressed his entire satisfaction and his pleasure at being present with Doric. Under the fatherly guidance of Ex. Comp. Brunton, who is a host in himself, this Chapter is sure to be prosperous.

York, No. 62, N. Toronto.—On November 1st I visited this Chapter, but, owing to the numerous political meetings being held on the eve of a general election, their numbers were small, but those present were enthusiastic R. A. Masons. The M. M. M. degree was conferred on one candidate and the work was done fairly well by Ex. Comp. Mosely and those of his officers who were present. I directed the attention of the Chapter to the very difficult position in which they placed their First Principal by giving him meagre attendance, and more especially, when degrees were to be worked, for minor officers to absent themselves from their place of duty. I was accompanied by Ex. Comps. E. M. Carleton, W. J. Lake, W. Porteous and Joseph King, and a number of Companions from city Chapters, who expressed themselves as well pleased with the splendid reception and entertainment. The Past Z's. of this Chapter would do well to return to their first love and be present at the Chapter meetings. The prospects of this Chapter appear good, but as a Chapter they do not visit enough.

St. Paul's, No. 65, Toronto.—On my visit to this Chapter on April 11th, 1900, I found E. Comp. E. B. Brown

ably performing the duties of position as First Principal, and no less ably assisted by E. Comp. Dr. A. F. Webster, H., and Ex. Comp. Frank Robertson, J. On this occasion the M. M. and M. E. M. degrees were exemplified on a candidate of exceptional intelligence, one who could grasp and appreciate the beauties fully brought out in the M. M. by E. Comp. Frank Robertson, and in the M. E. M. by E. Comp. F. W. Harcourt, the obligations being administered by E. Comp. E. Brown. The correctness with which Comp. James Bicknell as S. D. performed his part is well worthy of mention. It was particularly pleasing to me to find in attendance such distinguished Masonic generals as Rt. Ex. Comps. Benjamin Allen, W. G. Eakins, Aubrey White, John McKnight and others, who are always prepared and willing to fill any vacancy which presents itself. While in the quarries they work well, but one should see them work in the vineyard. As a Chapter they are poor visitors. The prospects of this Chapter are good.

Occident, No. 77, Toronto.—On July 13th I visited this Chapter and found an attendance of about thirty members and visitors, which I consider a splendid showing for a convocation in the off season. This must have had its effect on the candidates, five of whom were advanced to the M.M. M. degree by officers who did well under the direction of Ex. Comp. G. K. Clements who has a good following of his Chapter; with some little corrections which the Ex. Z. assured me would be followed out, I had pleasure in congratulating the Chapter on the way they did their work in general.

The fee for advancement and exaltation is the minimum, yet this is not the only reason for its numerical gain for there is an existing feature prominently noticeable, and one which is certainly conducive to growth and usefulness, viz., the interest which each member takes in the work and his readiness to at any time fill a vacancy caused by the absence of an officer. As a Chapter they are poor visitors, but it is a blooming daughter of Grand Chapter. R. E. Comps. J. J. Thompson, G.P.S., and Joseph Hickson, P.G.R., are strong supports to the Chapter.

Orient, No. 79, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on March 22nd and found E. Comp. E. H. Briggs handling the business with despatch in an assemblage of some thirty-seven members and visitors, among whom were such dignitaries as

the M. E. the Grand Z., the R. E. the G. P. S., P. T. Lee, P. G.R., Ex. Comp. E. M. Carleton and a good following of King Solomon's faithful. I was disappointed at not seeing any work performed but was assured by the Ex. Z. that there was good material coming in and from the number of emergent convocations held, I can only conclude that much of the work is done on those occasions, and on regular meetings they "kill the fatted calf" for their members and guests. I was again present on October 25th, at their election of officers, on which occasion there was also a splendid gathering, and was informed that some four members had been made at an emergent meeting just previous.

From the snap displayed by the Ex. Z., I however feel safe to report that the work has not suffered at the hands of this Chapter. The Scribe E.'s books are neatness itself. As a visiting Chapter they rank last.

ANTIQUITY, No. 91, TORONTO.—On May 21st I visited this Chapter and found a splendid attendance, and the business of the Chapter handled with a vim which plainly showed that all were interested in its workings and welfare. While on this occasion there was no work done, yet Ex. Comp. Lake proved himself an able chairman and a good entertainer. I again visited on November 19th, when the Chapter had got finally settled in their new quarters, displaying a beautiful set of new banners and other paraphernalia which goes to beautify a Chapter-room and make it homelike, having the father of the Chapter, R. E. Comp. William Walker, present as he invariably is at all its convocations. On this occasion there were four candidates advanced to the M.M.M. degree; the work was well done with a few minor exceptions to which the attention of the Ex. Z. was directed. E. Comp. Lake is a careful ritualist and is ably assisted by his Principals E. Comps. F. Blackburn and R. Ross. The Scribe E., Comp. G. W. Verral, takes pride in the appearance and correctness of his books. Grand Chapter need have no fear as to the success of Antiquity, No. 91. This Chapter's members are splendid visitors.

In conclusion I would respectfully call the attention of my successor to the amount of outstanding dues, which are in some cases beyond the safe limit.

Respectfully submitted,

J. WESLEY JONES,

District Superintendent, Toronto District.

TORONTO DISTRICT No. 8.

Name of Chapter.	No.	Meetings Held.			Average Attendance.		Annual Dues per Member.	No. Members last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Advanced.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	Degrees Conferred			No. of Members 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets of Chapter.	Cash or Securities.	Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Insurance.	Prospects of Chapter.	Can Ex. Z. work all Degree s ?	Loss.	Gain.
		Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	Members.	Visitors.											M. M. M.	M. E. M.	Royal Arch.											
St. Andrew and St. John's	4	10	0	10	30	6	$3 00	113	4	4	0	1	4	10	1	104	4	4	2	9	Nil	$375 00	$ 175 00	$200 00	$155 50	.....	Good	Yes	9	..
King Solomon's	8	11	0	11	25	5	3 00	184	13	6	2	1	5	0	3	185	6	4	2	35	Nil	902 48	767 48	135 00	403 25	.....	Good	Yes	..	1
Doric	60	9	1	10	14	3	1 25	57	2	2	..	..	1	..	..	58	2	2	2	.....	Nil	300 00	.....	300 00	60 00	$300 00	Very fair	Yes	..	1
York	62	8	....	8	11	2	3 00	34	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	35	1	1	..	25	$ 50	.....	47 56	150 00	214 00	300 00	Fair	Yes	..	1
St. Paul's	65	10	....	10	23	6	4 80	104	9	5	1	..	1	.	1	108	5	5	5	1	Nil	1127 70	894 00	213 70	63 70	200 00	Good	Yes		4
Occident	77	12	1	13	25	6	3 00	71	27	19	..	.	3	..	2	85	19	19	19	8	65 00	.....	90 00	.....	125 00	250 00	Good	Yes	..	14
Orient	79	12	4	16	20	6	3 00	75	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	81	6	4	4	34	30 00	500 00	75 00	.....	333 65	100 00	Good	Yes	..	6
Antiquity	91	9	1	10	....	....	3 00	88	15	10	1	..	3	..	1	95	10	9	10	20	Nil	.....	50 00	300 00	127 65	400 00	Good	Yes	..	7

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

At last meeting of Grand Chapter, Comp. J. T. Lovel, of North Bay, was elected to the office of Grand Superintendent of Georgian District, but as he was not present he was not installed, and it would appear that he made no effort to put himself in a position to be so. On or about the 10th of December last he wrote me saying that as he had not been Obligated he did not desire to perform the duties of Grand Superintendent; he therefore enclosed all the correspondence that he had received from the different Chapters during the year. I immediately wrote to the Grand Scribe E., and enclosed Companion Lovel's letter and all other correspondence that he (Companion Lovel) had sent me. The Grand Scribe E. wrote me that he had also received a letter from Companion Lovel, the contents of which were similar to the one I had forwarded. Grand Scribe E. further wrote me that as I was to all intents and purposes the Grand Superintendent of the District, he was instructed to forward the forms for the Chapters of the District, and requested me to send them to the several Chapters, to be filled in and returned to me by January 1st. This duty I performed, but have only received reports from three of the six Chapters in the District, and I attach tabular report herewith.

I am extremely sorry that I could not do more, but it was impossible at that late date to undertake to visit the several Chapters, and as three of the Chapters have not reported I am unable to say much regarding the condition of Capitular Masonry in the district.

Manitou, No. 27, Collingwood, from their report, appears to have made substantial progress.

Signet, No. 34, Barrie, has also made good progress, and will no doubt continue to grow and prosper.

Grand River, No. 70, Bracebridge.—This being my own Chapter, I can speak definitely. We have made no progress during the past year, but our prospects are good for the coming year, as we have four applications in hand and expect to receive others in a short time.

In conclusion, I can only express regret that I am unable to make a better report, but I trust that the next Grand Superintendent will be one who will at least endeavor to perform the duties of the office, visit the Chapters, stir them up to renewed activity, and thus be enabled to give a glowing report of Capitular Masonry in Georgian District at next meeting of Grand Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES WHITTEN,
Grand Supt., Georgian District, No. 9.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

No.	Chapter.	Place.	Meetings.			Average Attendance.	Visitors.	Annual Dues.	Membership.								Work Done.			Members 12 months in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets.	Dues Outstanding.	Insurance.	Can Ex. Z. do Work?
			Regular.	Emergent.	Totals.				No. Members last Return.	Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Initiated.	Affiliations.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A. M.						
27	Manitou	Collingwood.....	10	1	11	17	0	$1 50	52	7	7	..	1	1	..	..	13 lifebers. 59	7	4	4	10	0	$184 16	$73 58	$150 00	Yes.
34	Signet	Barrie	9	0	9	18	5	2 00	93	12	8	..		2	..	2	97	8	8	9	46	30	750 00	179 00	300 00	Yes.
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	No return.																						
70	Grand River	Bracebridge.....	5	0	5	9	2	2 00	44	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	41	..	..	..	17	35	150 00	60 00	.....	Yes.
86	Macpherson	Meaford	No return.																						
103	St. John's.	North Bay.....	No return.																						

ONTARIO DISTRICT, No. 10.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., and the Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

As Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, No. 10, I beg to submit the following report for 1900 :—

There are eight Chapters in the District, viz.: Pentalpha, No. 28, Oshawa ; Keystone, No. 35, Whitby ; Corinthian, No. 36, Peterboro' ; Victoria, No. 37, Port Hope ; Excelsior, No. 45, Colborne ; St. Johns, No. 48, Cobourg ; Midland, No. 94, Lindsay, and Warkworth, No. 110, Warkworth. I have been able to pay a visit to each of the Chapters during the year, and I must say that they, as a whole, have made progress, and are in a better condition than they were when last reported. I find that the officers are able to do the work in a creditable manner, and I can say with confidence that Ontario District will not take second place with any of the other districts, but are in the front rank.

The attendance at the meetings has not been as large as I could wish, but the personnel of those who do attend is so satisfactory that I feel that the Chapters have quality, if not quantity, and the additions to the membership also bear out this point, that the Companions are choosing the best material, not accepting everything that offers. The financial condition is good.

I found the officers of the different Chapters to be able men, who are socially and mentally of the first rank—clergymen, doctors, lawyers, merchants, and teachers,—men who outside the Chapters are leaders in their own professional and business spheres. In detail :—

Excelsior Chapter No. 45, Colborne.—On April 3 I had the pleasure of seeing some splendid work done by R. Ex. Comp. Wilson, Z., of this Chapter, assisted by an efficient and careful staff of officers. The R.A. degree was exemplified, and I must mention the P. S. Comp. Mayhew, who did it for the first time that evening, and did credit to himself and to his Chapter. The Scribe E., R. E. Comp. Fitzgerald, has a carefully kept and correct set of books. They entertained me at a well-appointed banquet at the Brunswick House at the close.

Pentalpha Chapter, No. 28, Oshawa.—Although it

was Good Friday, the Companions turned out fairly well on the occasion of my visit, and I witnessed the R A. degree being exemplified in a manner that proved creditable to all who took part in it. Here, as in every Chapter in the District, the P. S. deserved praise for the manner in which he did his part. The S. E., R. E. Comp. Murton, is a very careful and efficient officer. The Chapter had a hard blow on Nov. 13, in the loss by death of their Z., Ex. Comp. Felt, than whom it would be hard to find a more whole-souled, zealous and efficient officer. He was on his second term as Z. of Pentalpha Chapter, a Past Master of Cedar Lodge, No. 270. He was one of the most genial and thoroughly liked Masons in that part of the District. Pentalpha Chapter and the Masonic fraternity in Oshawa were deeply grieved at his death, and will cherish his memory as one of their most faithful officers. He was buried in Oshawa with Masonic honors. I had the pleasure while visiting Pentalpha Chapter, of renewing acquaintance with R. E. Comps. Henry, Murton, McCaw, and other Companions.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 36, Peterboro'.—On April 17 I paid my official visit. R. Ex. Comp. Shaw, Grand J., accompanied me, and we witnessed the M.E.M. degree being conferred on a candidate. Ex. Comp. Walkey, Z., Ex. Comp. Gibson, H., and Ex. Comp. Beattie, J., occupied the different chairs at the opening and closing of the Chapter and during the exemplification of the M.E.M. degree, and did credit to themselves and their Chapter. This Chapter is the only one in the District which has a separate Chapter room, and everything in and around it is convenient for Capitular Masonry. R. Ex. Comp. Wood is a great assistance to this Chapter, which ranks equal to any in the District.

Midland Chapter, No. 94, Lindsay.—This Chapter received my official visit on April 19.—The Z., Dr. Gillespie, at the eleventh hour was called away professionally, but returned late, and as he had had a difficult professional case to treat, he was nervous, but exemplified the M.E.M. degree in much better style than I expected from previous reports and the difficulties which the Z. had to surmount. This Chapter shows the largest increase in membership in the District, and I am glad to say is in a healthy condition. It has the misfortune of being in a railroad town where the Companions are never sure of being able to be present on the night of

meeting, but they have the good fortune of possessing a number of enthusiastic Companions, and also M. Ex. Comp. Harding, P.G.Z., has thrown in his lot with them.

Warkworth Chapter, No. 110, Warkworth. — On June 13, accompanied by Comp. Neill, of Excelsior Chapter, Colborne, I visited this Chapter. We drove 16 miles to Warkworth, and were rewarded by seeing the M.M.M. degree exemplified in a very pleasing and impressive manner by Ex. Comp. Hamilton and his officers. This Chapter is financially strong, and although laboring under the disadvantage of being so far from a railway station, have many of the most enthusiastic Royal Arch Masons in the District. This is partly due to the enthusiasm of Ex. Comp. Humphries.

Victoria Chapter, No. 37, Port Hope.—This is my own Chapter, and I have been at every communication with one exception. I paid my official visit on August 18, when I saw the M.M.M., M.E.M. and R.A. degrees all worked. Ex. Comp. Bowen, J., conferred the M.M.M. degree, and did it in a manner which reflected credit on himself. R. E. Comp. Might, P.G.S., conferred the M.E.M. degree, and V. Ex. Comp. Evans, as Z., Ex. Comp. Sanders, as H., and Ex. Comp. Bowen, J., exemplified the R.A. degree in an impressive and creditable manner. The evening was oppressively hot, but the candidate received a good idea of the lessons taught.

I, assisted by R. Ex. Comp. Might and Past Z.'s, installed the new officers on December 14, and I feel that Victoria Chapter will progress and prosper under Ex. Comp. H. A. Ward, M.P., Z.; Ex. Comp. E. Bowen, H., and Ex. Comp. W. G. Noble, J. Victoria Chapter has a large number of Past Z.'s who take an active interest in her welfare—especially to be mentioned, R. Ex. Comps. Robertson, Might and V. Ex. Comp. Evans. R. Ex. Comp. Shaw, Grand J., dropped in at the close of the meeting on December 14.

St. John's Chapter, No. 48, Cobourg.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on January 3, accompanied by R Ex. Comp. Might and Comp. Dill from Port Hope, when Ex. Comp. Rev. Dr. Reynar, Z., Ex. Comp. Odell, H., Ex. Comp. Homing as J., and Ex. Comp. Hewson as P. S., assisted by the other officers, conferred the R. A. degree on Bro. Geo. Guillett, ex-M.P., in a manner which reflects credit on themselves and their Chapter. This Chapter has good material

and knows how to use it. The Companions are given, as I find nearly all the Chapters in the District are, to some substitution but they give the work so impressively as to offset this deficiency. R. Ex. Comp. Craig and Ex. Comp. Hooey assisted me in the installation of officers after which we were entertained at a well appointed banquet. This Chapter suffered a loss last June by the death of R. Ex. Comp. D. McNaughton, Past Grand Superintendent, who died June 21. I attended the funeral which was conducted by Ex. Comp. Hargraft. He was a P. M. of St. John's Lodge, Cobourg, and a charter member of Canbro Lodge, Baskerville, B. C., and P. Z. of St. John's Chapter, No. 48, Cobourg, and Past Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, No. 10, being G. S. in 1887.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 35, WHITBY.—On January 10th, I made my last official visit to this Chapter. Here, as elsewhere in the District, I found an efficient staff of officers. The R. A. degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Henderson, as Z., Ex. Comp. Nicholson, H., Ex. Comp. Hatch as J., and Ex. Comp. White, P. S. The work was well done by all the officers, but I must make particular mention of the closing charge by Ex. Comp. Ross, and the mystical lecture by the retiring Z. Ex. Comp. Huggard. This Chapter has a very bright outlook, and with such an energetic presiding officer as Ex. Comp. Hatch, should boom the incoming year.

In conclusion I must thank the officers and members of all the Chapters in the District for their courtesy, and the very cordial manner in which I have been received, and before closing call their attention to one or two things which I think the District should be possessed of. There is no seal or letter book belonging to the District, and I think they should have both.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

W. G. COULTER,
Grand Supt., Ontario District, No. 10.

ONTARIO DISTRICT No. 10.

No.	Name of Chapter	No. of Regular Meetings	No. of Emergent Meetings	Total No. of Meetings	Average Attendance of Members	Average Attendance of Visitors	No. of Members per last Return	No. of Petitions Accepted	Candidates Initiated	No. of Affiliations	No. of Restorations	No. of Withdrawals	No. of Suspensions	No. of Deaths	Present Membership	M. M. Degrees Conferred	M. E. M. Degrees Conferred	R. A. Degrees Conferred	No. of Members 12 Months in Arrears	Liabilities	Assets	In Cash	In Property	Dues Outstanding	Amount of Insurance Carried	Prospects	Can Ex. Z. work all the Degrees?
28	Pentalpha	7	..	7	12	2	45	3	3	..	..	..	2	1	45	3	3	4	15	$50 00	$400 00	.....	$400 00	$ 96 00	$200 00	Good	Yes
35	Keystone	6	1	7	12	3	52	3	1	..	..	..	.	.	55	3	3	1	....	.....	330 00	$ 30 00	300 00	.....	200 00	do.	Yes
36	Corinthian	10	..	10	14	1	66	2	2	..	1	1	..	..	68	2	2	2	8	.....	621 14	121 14	500 00	107 75	Full	do.	Yes
37	Victoria	11	1	12	15	1	61	3	1	..	..	..	9	..	55	3	1	1	12	.....	562 29	162 29	400 00	97 82	300 00	do.	Yes
45	Excelsior	12	..	12	15	1	59	4	3	..	..	1	..	..	62	4	4	3	....	.....	218 29	31 29	187 00	20 50	150 00	do.	Yes
48	St. John's	12		12	12	..	45	2	2	1	..	..	..	1	47	2	2	1	....	.....	100 00	.....	100 00	50 00	nil	do.	Yes
94	Midland	11	..	11	10	..	43	6	5	1	..	..	..	..	49	5	5	4	12	.....	238 30	15 30	222 80	40 80	150 00	do.	Yes
110	Warkworth	5	..	5	17	1	38	3	1	1	..	2	..	..	39	1	1	..	6	.....	275 00	75 00	200 00	6 00	nil	do.	Yes

W. G. COULTER,
Grand Supt., Ontario District, No. 10.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 11.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I respectfully beg to submit herewith my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Prince Edward District, No. 11, for the past year. This District comprises five Chapters, all of which I have visited during the past year. I found the Craftsmen all alive, and, in each, enough of earnest and zealous material to encourage the hope that whatever has been accomplished during the past year will be improved upon in the next.

The following table will show the relative standing in membership at the end of 1899 and 1900 :

	1899	1900
Moira, No. 7, Members in good standing.....	119	112
St. Mark's, No. 26, Members in good standing.....	41	39
Picton, No. 31, " " "	108	120
Mt. Sinai No. 44, " " "	41	44
Keystone, No. 72, " " "	39	39
	348	354

This shows an actual net gain of six, but this does not correctly indicate the work done in the District. I find the following losses : Withdrawals, six ; suspension for non-payment of dues, fifteen ; deaths, three. Total losses, twenty-four. I find the following increases : By affiliation, one ; restoration, one. Total, two. Leaving net losses, without considering gains, twenty-two ; add net gain, six ; showing Companions exalted during year, twenty-eight. I might remark here that I don't consider fifteen suspensions for non-payment of dues a total loss, for generally speaking, I think a Chapter is better off without Companions who won't pay their dues.

A careful examination of the particular circumstances of each Chapter leads me to speak encouragingly throughout the District.

The work is fairly well done in each Chapter, and it is hard to discriminate in the matter of work where all do so well. But I would fail in my duty if I closed this report with

out a slight special reference to Prince Edward Chapter at Picton. In attendance, work and material progress combined, this Chapter stands easily at the head of the District, and as far as I have been able to learn, can take a creditable place amongst the best Chapters in the Grand Jurisdiction. I can safely recommend any one to look to this Chapter as a pattern of what a R. A. Chapter should be. I had the privilege of being accompanied in my visit to this Chapter by the Grand Z., J. and S. E., and I know they will all bear me out in saying that we were entertained right royally in every respect, both within and without the Chapter.

Of the other Chapters, I would say in conclusion, as to Moira, that while she has been obliged to yield the palm to Picton this year, she is a splendid old Chapter, is in good hands, with a good supply of first-class material coming on, and it will require all the zeal and ambition of Picton Chapter, aided by her exceptionally efficient and energetic Scribe E., to hold the place she has so nobly won.

As to the other three Chapters, a little hard work by the good men and true, who have taken the helm, will place them all up amongst the best of the small Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. Earl Halliwell.

Grand Supt., Prince Edward District, No. 11.

Stirling, January 18th, 1901.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 12.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I beg herewith to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the District over which I have had the honor of presiding for the current Royal Arch year; and I am happy to be able to say that Royal Arch Masonry in this District is in a flourishing condition. There has been an increase in membership by twenty-seven over last year. The financial condition of the Chapters, as may be seen in the attached schedule, is satisfactory. The cordial and fraternal manner in which I, as Grand Superintendent, have been received when making my official visits, shows that the Chapters are intensely loyal to Grand Chapter, the greatest loyalty and enthusiasm

existing throughout the District. I am more than pleased to be able to report that by my efforts and the able assistance of R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand J., one Chapter has been given a new lease of life.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC AND CATARAQUI CHAPTER, NO. 1, KINGSTON.—This ancient and historic Chapter, which has had such a long and honorable career, and which has done so much for the benefit of the Royal Craft by setting such a worthy example in the quality of the work done, and contributed so many distinguished officers to Grand Chapter, has held seven regular Convocations during the year, has received four petitions and exalted one candidate, the prospects for the incoming year being better. I have not, as yet, paid my official visit to this Chapter, but will do so at the regular Convocation to be held on 18th inst., on which occasion I have been honored by an invitation to instal the new officers, assisted by R. E. Comp. Shaw, Grand J. I have no doubt but that I will find this Chapter approaching as near as possible to perfection in the practice of our ancient rites and ceremonies.

GRENVILLE CHAPTER, NO. 22, PRESCOTT.—This Chapter has held ten regular Convocations, with a good average attendance, has received four petitions ; and has initiated four candidates. The membership remains the same. The financial condition is most satisfactory, and the prospects good. I made my official visit at the regular Convocation on November 13th, and witnessed the work in Mark Master Masons Degree, and although the evening unfortunately was so stormy that the officers who lived out of town could not get there ; yet the degree was worked by the past officers who were present, in such an acceptable manner as to leave no doubt but that the work and ceremonies of the Royal Craft were well looked after during the year. The interests of the Chapter have been in the hands of a capable set of officers, headed by Ex. Comp. J. A. Fleming, First Principal.

SUSSEX CHAPTER, NO. 59, BROCKVILLE.—This Chapter has held seven regular Convocations and one emergent during the year, has accepted four petitions and exalted three candidates. The membership has increased by two and the prospects are good. The property of the Chapter has been added to by the

purchase, in partnership with St. Lawrence Chapter, of a costly set of banners. I paid my official visit to this Chapter at the regular Convocation in November, at which date an emergent Convocation of St. Lawrence Chapter was held for the purpose of holding a joint Convocation of the two Brockville Chapters, to receive an official visit from M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand Z., who had intimated his intentions of paying the Chapters a visit. The Brockville Chapters determined to make this an event in their history, and invited the other members of the Grand Council, and the officers of all the Chapters in the District. On arriving at the Chapter room I found that R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand Third Principal J., was the only member of Grand Council present. A large delegation of Ogdensburg, N. Y., Chapter had been invited and were present, and I presume Grand Chapter will be pleased to know that the most cordial relations exist between the Chapters in my District and the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand A. of the state of New York. The work on the occasion was the Royal Arch Degree. The officers were selected from the two Chapters headed by Ex. Comp. W. H. Mowat, First Principal of St. Lawrence Chapter.

This Convocation was the largest attended and most enthusiastic and best conducted gathering of the Royal Craft that it has ever been my privilege to attend; and although kindly invited by the presiding Principal to criticise the work, I could only say that it was perfect.

Maitland Chapter, No. 68, North Augusta.—This Chapter has held three regular Convocations and one emergent during the year. The membership has increased during the year by one; and the prospects for the future are good, as there are several petitions before the Chapter. The financial condition is satisfactory and the interests of the Chapter well looked after. I paid an official visit to this Chapter on the date of their regular Convocation in September, and had the pleasure ot the company of the Ex. Comp. S. R. Stayner, now the First Principal of St. Lawrence Chapter. There was no work done, owing to unavoidable absence of the candidate. However I saw the Chapter opened and closed, and observed the way the business of the Chapter was conducted, and I am pleased to be able to say that the prosperity of this Chapter has been in good hands. I found that upon Ex. Comp. John Chapman had fallen the duties of First Principal for a number

of years ; and no more enthusiastic or capable First Principal could be found, yet I recommended that Ex. Comp. Chapman should be relieved, and some other capable and willing Principal should be brought forward, from the excellent material at hand. Ex. Comp. Chapman concurred in my opinion and advice ; and the Chapter has done the same, and elected at their December Convocation, a new and capable set of officers, which it will be my pleasure to instal on February 8th next.

St. Lawrence Chapter, No. 100, Brockville.—This Chapter has held nine regular, and three emergent Convocations during the year. Conferred the degrees upon eight candidates, and have added three to their number. The Chapter has been presided over by a very capable set of officers, and as I have attended most of the meetings, I can testify to the work being of a perfect character. I paid an official visit in November, at the joint Convocation mentioned in my report of Sussex Chapter. The officers of this Chapter are all enthusiastic Royal Arch Masons. The financial condition of the Chapter is good, and its prosperity assured ; fully verifying the predictions of Rt. Ex. Comp. W. Thomson in his report of two years ago. I had the pleasure of installing a splendid set of officers for the new year on the 11th inst.

St. John's Chapter, No. 112, Morrisburg.—This Chapter has during the year held ten regular and one emergent Convocations, accepted eleven petitions, and conferred the degrees upon eleven candidates, and the prospects of the Chapter are fairly good. I paid an official visit to this Chapter, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw, Grand Third Principal of Grand Chapter, in August, at the regular Convocation. The condition of this Chapter had been reported as unsatisfactory, and I naturally felt considerable anxiety for its future, and determined to assist to the utmost in raising it from its present condition to one more favourable and hopeful ; and I am more than pleased at the progress that has been made by Ex. Comp. A. D. Harkness, Z., along the line advised by Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw and myself. The financial condition, as well as the proficiency of the principal officers, has been materially improved. If the new officers who have been installed by V. Ex. Comp. Fraid, of Cornwall, will do their part, it will only be a few months until St. John's Chapter, No. 112,

will be on sound footing, and start an era of usefulness, and be a source of pride to Grand Chapter.

COVENANT CHAPTER, No. 113, CORNWALL.—This Chapter, the furthest east in the District, has held ten regular Convocations with a very large average attendance. It has accepted fourteen petitions and conferred the degrees upon twelve candidates, and has had an increase in membership of fourteen, the largest increase of any in the District. I visited the Chapter at the regular Convocation in October, and was pleased to find that Rt. Ex. Comp. Shaw, Grand J., was in Cornwall; and was also a visitor. The work on the occasion was the Royal Arch Degree. The officers were all present, as was also V. Ex. Comp. Fraid, P.Z., and now an officer of Grand Chapter. The work was done in an exceptionally good manner, and I have never attended a Convocation where the work of all the officers was better done. It would be but the summing up of the condition of this Chapter to say that it has been the most prosperous of any in the District during this year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Fraternally yours,

JONATHAN GREENE,

Grand Supt., St. Lawrence District, No. 12.

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 12.

No.	Chapter	Location.	Meetings.			Membership.				Degrees Conferred.				Restorations.	Suspensions.	Withdrawals.	Deaths.	Average Attendance.		Members 12 months in arrears.	Dues per Annum.	Financial.				Liabilities.	Insurance.
			Regular.	Emergent.	Total.	December 31th, 1899.	Increase.	Decrease.	Total, Dec. 31, 1900.	M. M. M.	M. E. M.	R. A.	Total.					Members.	Visitors.			Property.	Cash.	Dues Outstanding.	Total Assets.		
1	Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui	Kingston	7	0	7	69	..	3	66	1	1	1	3	..	2	2	..	12	1	8	$3 00	$400 00	$ 62 73	$ 27 00	$489 73	$ 80 00	$200 00
22	Grenville	Prescott	10	0	10	53	..	..	53	4	3	3	10	..	3	1	..	12	3	12	2 00	700 00	125 00	50 00	875 00	.....	200 00
59	Sussex	Brockville	7	1	8	77	2	..	79	3	5	6	14	..	..	1	..	12	4	59	2 00	235 00	36 43	200 00	471 43	.....	None.
68	Maitland	North Augusta	3	1	4	30	1	..	31	1	0	2	3	..	..	..	..	12	2	12	1 00	20 00	150 00	30 00	200 00	.....	None.
100	St. Lawrence	Brockville	9	3	12	52	3	..	55	8	8	8	24	..	3	1	1	9	5	16	2 00	200 00	125 00	104 00	429 00	.....	None.
112	St. John's	Morrisburg	10	1	11	....	1	..	39	11	10	10	31	..	.	1	1	10	1	14	2 00	200 00	28 00	123 00	351 00	.....	200 00
113	Covenant	Cornwall	10	0	10	56	0	..	70	12	14	13	39	..		..	..	15	2	6	1 50	430 00	155 00	75 00	660 00	94 68	150 00

OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Members of Grand Chapter.

I have much pleasure in submitting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Ottawa District, No. 13, for the year 1900.

The District comprises five Chapters, as follows:—Carleton, No. 16, located at Ottawa; Pembroke, No. 58, located at Mattawa; Granite, No. 61, located at Almonte; Bonnechere, No. 114, located at Renfrew, and Maple, No. 116, located at Carleton Place.

I have visited all the Chapters once and one twice, and am glad to have to report that harmony prevails throughout the District. The officers of the various Chapters are very regular in their attendance, and the work done is up to the standard, the increase in membership has surpassed that of 1899, and I have succeeded in getting the only weak Chapter in the District to work once more.

The outlook for the first year of the twentieth century is to say the least very promising.

During the year three dispensations were granted: Granite, No. 61, to instal officers; Carleton, No. 16, to hold a reunion, and Pembroke, No. 58, to elect and instal officers.

GRANITE CHAPTER, No. 61, ALMONTE.—I have had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter twice; on my first visit I installed the officers on the 26th day of April, at a very fair meeting. I was much pleased with the way in which the newly elected officers closed the Chapter; I looked forward to good progress and satisfactory work being done, and on my second visit on the 9th of October, I was accompanied by Ex. Comp. Timmins, and had the pleasure of seeing the R.A. degree conferred on three candidates in a very satisfactory manner; I regret very much to say that Ex. Comp. Pollock, one of the oldest and one of the most enthusiastic Masons of the District, was absent through illness. This Chapter has certainly done well this year, which the appended report will show, and I know I will hear of even greater progress being made next year.

After the meeting was over we adjourned to a restaurant of the town, where an excellent oyster supper had been prepared and a very enjoyable time was spent.

MAPLE CHAPTER, No. 116, CARLETON PLACE.—On my official visit to this Chapter, which was made on the 4th September, I was accompanied by Ex. Comp. W. A. McKay, of Bonnechere Chapter, and we had the pleasure of meeting R. E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, of Carleton Chapter, Ottawa; an enjoyable and I trust profitable evening was spent. Two candidates were exalted and the work was done in a very creditable and satisfactory manner; the attendance was small, owing to a number of the Companions being out of town, including a number of the subordinate officers; however their places were filled by well skilled Companions. This Chapter is growing steadily and the prospects are good.

CARLETON CHAPTER, No. 16, OTTAWA.—This is the largest Chapter in the District, and although eight candidates were initiated during the year, the returns show but a slight increase in membership, due to the fact that the Chapter lost from withdrawals, suspensions, and one death. My visit to this Chapter was to have been made in October, but I was requested by the First Principal to defer it till the 16th of November, this being the occasion of their reunion. I was accompanied by Ex. Comp. W. A. McKay, of Bonnechere Chapter. Circumstances prevented my attending the afternoon session, but in the evening I had the pleasure of seeing the R.A. degree conferred upon two candidates by R. E. Comp. Luke, assisted by an able set of officers, in a faultless manner. There was an excellent attendance, including a large number of visitors, and they expressed themselves as highly pleased with the beautiful room and paid high compliments to the officers for the way in which the work was done. The prospects of this Chapter are good. After the work of the evening was completed, Carleton Chapter entertained their guests to a banquet in the hall adjoining; the chair was occupied by R. E. Comp. Butterworth, and after a lengthy programme of songs and speeches a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by singing "Auld Lang Syne."

BONNECHERE CHAPTER, No. 114, RENFREW. — This being my mother Chapter, I had the pleasure of attending

all the Convocations and seeing the different degrees worked, and I can safely say that the work done by the officers of this Chapter is second to none in the District. All the officers are enthusiastic Masons. The year closes with a decided increase in the membership and the prospects for the year are very bright.

PEMBROKE CHAPTER, No. 58, MATTAWA.—Shortly after my appointment, I wrote Ex. Comp. Haentschel, notifying him of the same and asking him to be good enough to have the summonses of the meetings sent to me so that I could arrange to visit their Chapter. He replied, stating that so many of the Companions had left town that it was impossible to get enough to form a quorum and discontinued issuing summonses for some time; however, if Grand Chapter would allow them to remain inactive for another year, he felt quite confident they could revive the Chapter once again. I again wrote, urging him to do what he could to have a meeting before the end of the year and to let me know at his earliest convenience what the prospects were. Before receiving a reply to this letter, I was requested by the M. E. the Grand Z., through the Grand Scribe E., to communicate with the Principals of Pembroke Chapter, asking them to show cause why the warrant should not be recalled. To this Ex. Comp. Haentschel replied, that the actual three Principals now were: John DeSousa, Z., Calgary, N. W. T.; C. W. Haentschel, H., Mattawa; John Mackay, J., Renfrew; a very much scattered head and one difficult to get together on short notice; however, if Grand Chapter would give them another year's grace, they would do their utmost not to disappoint. I at once saw and spoke with Ex. Comp. J. Mackay, re the prospects of Pembroke Chapter, with the result that he (Mackay) wrote Ex. Comp. Haentschel, offering to go to Mattawa at least four times a year and oftener if necessary, and do anything he could to get the Chapter on a good footing. Now this was a very generous offer, when we consider that Mattawa is 128 miles from Renfrew. It is needless to say that the offer was accepted, and I was requested to have a dispensation issued, to elect and instal officers for as early a date as possible. The dispensation was issued for the 14th day of January, 1901, and accompanied by Ex. Comp. J. Mackay, I visited Mattawa Chapter and installed the officers, and must say that if the interest manifested at this meeting continues

through the year, and I believe it will, my successor in office can look forward to his visit to Pembroke Chapter with very much pleasure, and will have none but words of praise for the way in which the work is done.

My reception was certainly a very warm one and I found perfect harmony prevailing among the Companions. The prospects of the Chapter are fair.

In conclusion, I beg leave to tender my thanks to the members of the various Chapters for the very warm way in which I was received and assisted in the discharge of my duties during this year.

All of which is faithfully and fraternally submitted.

N. W. CLEARY,

Grand Superintendent, Ottawa District, No. 13.

OTTAWA DISTRICT, No. 13.

No.	Chapter.	Place.	Meetings.			Average Attendance.	Visitors.	Annual Dues.	Membership.								Work done.			No. of Members 12 months in arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets.	In Cash.	In Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects.	Can Ex. Z. work all degrees?
			Regular.	Emergent.	Total.				No. of Members last return.	Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Initiated.	Affiliation.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	M.M.M.	M.E.M.	R.A.M.									
16	Carleton	Ottawa	9	3	12	..	..	3 00	74	8	8	..	..	3	2	1	76	8	8	8	..	.....	909 00	409 00	500 00	.....	400 00	Good..	Yes.
58	Pembroke...	Mattawa	..	..	..	..	..	....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
61	Granite	Almonte	10	4	14	10	4	1 00	27	7	9	.	.	.	.	.	36	9	9	9	12	55 00	20 00	57 00	.....	44 00	150 00	Good..	Yes.
114	Bonnechere	Renfrew	12	2	13	15	6	2 60	45	6	6	..	.	.	.	.	51	6	5	5	16	.....	658 79	190 99	400 00	67 80	150 00	Good..	Yes.
116	Maple	Carleton Place.	11	1	12	10	..	2 00	34	6	6	..	..	..	1	1	39	6	6	6	15	.....	200 00	100 00	.....	72 23	100 00	Fair ..	Yes.

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 14.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers, and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In presenting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Algoma District, which comprises only four Chapters, viz., Shuniah, No. 82, at Port Arthur; Golden, No. 90, at Rat Portage; Tuscan, No. 95, at Sudbury, and Algonquin, No. 102, at Sault Ste. Marie, permit me to point out to the Companions in the older settled parts of the province the fact that more than one thousand miles by rail separates Sault Ste. Marie from Rat Portage, passing through Sudbury and Port Arthur en route, and they will then be able the better to appreciate some of the difficulties with which the Companions of New Ontario have to contend.

I regret exceedingly that like my predecessors in office, I have found it impossible to visit the various Chapters comprising this District, but from constant communication with the officers of each, as well as from the annual returns, I am enabled to judge fairly accurately of the condition of each.

GOLDEN, No. 90, RAT PORTAGE.—It affords me great pleasure to be able to report that after having lain dormant since 1895, Golden Chapter at Rat Portage has been recalled to life and activity. And there can be no doubt that under the guidance of so zealous and experienced an officer as its new First Principal, His Honor Judge Chapple, it will soon be in a flourishing condition and rank with the best Chapters in the jurisdiction.

SHUNIAH, No. 82, PORT ARTHUR.—This is the oldest and I believe the most flourishing Chapter in the District. It has a most enthusiastic and efficient lot of officers and Companions, and with two such growing towns asPort Arthur and Fort William to support it, its future cannot but be bright.

TUSCAN, No. 95, SUDBURY, is the only Chapter which I have been able to visit. In Ex. Companion C. R. Reid it has a most capable and hard working First Principal who is able to confer the various degrees in a most impressive manner. To him and to Rt. Ex. Companion J. A. Sharp, this Chapter owes much, and although numerically rather weak, it is strong in *esprit de corps*.

ALGONQUIN, No. 102, SAULT STE. MARIE.—This is my mother Chapter consequently I feel particularly chagrined at the contretemps which prevented my contemplated official visit on Dec. 11th. From constantly meeting with Companions of this Chapter I know that it is in a most satisfactory condition, and with a continuance of the wonderful progress which the "Soo" has made during the past two years this must soon be the banner Chapter of the District.

In conclusion I wish to point out that frequent change of residence of the Companions is one of the great drawbacks with which we have to contend in this District, as it frequently renders necessary a change in several of the offices of a Chapter during the year which militates greatly against efficiency in the work. I also beg to suggest that a visit of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. or other officers of Grand Chapter to New Ontario during the coming summer would do more than anything else possibly could, to stimulate Capitular Masonry in Algoma District, No. 14.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

R. H. ARTHUR,
Grand Superintendent, Algoma District.

MANITOBA DISTRICT, No. 15.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor to submit my report on Capitular Masonry in District No. 15, which comprises the following Chapters, viz. :—Prince Rupert's, No. 52, Winnipeg; Corinthian, No. 101, Boissevain; Zeredatha, No. 111, Morden.

I am sorry to say that owing to sickness in the first part of the year and a pressure of business in the latter, I was unable to visit any of the Chapters. But from the reports I got from the Scribes E. of Prince Rupert's and Corinthian Chapters, I am sure they are both in a very prosperous condition.

PRINCE RUPERT'S CHAPTER, No. 52, WINNIPEG, held twelve regular meetings and seven emergent; annual dues, $3.00 city members and $1.50 country members; candidates initiated, 11; withdrawals, 4; suspensions, 23; deaths, 1; number of members per last return, 201; degrees

conferred, 11 M. M. M.; 11 M. E. M.; 10 R. A.; number of members twelve months in arrears must be in the neighborhood of 80, the amount being $383.00. The financial position of the Chapter is very good, the liabilities on January 1st being $130.23; assets about $1,400. The Scribe E. not having answered the questions as per form I sent, I have had to make these figures out from his letter received January 17th.

Corinthian Chapter, No. 101, Boissevain, has indeed a most encouraging report. Number of meetings, regular seven, emergent two; average attendance, twelve; annual dues, $2.00; number of members per last return, thirty-one; petitions accepted, eleven; candidates initiated, nine; suspensions, two; present membership, thirty-eight. Degrees conferred, M. M. M., nine; M. E. M., nine; R. A., eight; number of members twelve months in arrears, twenty-four; liabilities, none; assets, $350.00; cash, $100.00; property, $250.00; dues outstanding, $100.00; amount of insurance, $200.00. Prospects never better; Ex. Z. can work all the degrees.

Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, Morden.—Prospects have been very bad for this Chapter, but I think that things are looking better and I hope to see it in full swing again this year. I refrained from asking them to give up their charter as required by the Constitution, as I felt that an extra effort is being put forward to build it up this year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Alan M. Stewart,

Grand Superintendent, Manitoba District.

Morden, January 19th, 1901.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 16.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have very much pleasure in submitting my report for the Province of British Columbia for the year 1900. The condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this District may be summed up briefly by saying that the relations between the Chapters are amicable, and that prosperity and complete harmony prevail. At the beginning of the year there were three warranted Chapters at work: Vancouver, No. 98;

Kootenay, No. 120, and Rossland, No. 122. Two dispensations had also been issued for new Chapters, one at Nelson and one at New Westminster; but on account of some unavoidable delays neither had been opened. However, on the 3rd of April, I went to Nelson and found the Companions well up in their work, in possession of comfortable quarters and the requisite paraphernalia and books for the successful working of a Chapter. Assisted by Ex. Comps. Green and Quinlaw, with some others, the Chapter was duly opened.

On the 20th of the same month at my request, Rt. Ex. Comp. Watson and a number of the other Vancouver Companions went over to New Westminster and opened the Chapter there. In the same month I received letters from Fort Steele where brethren were desirous of starting a Chapter. After investigating the matter carefully, I came to the conclusion that there was a good field for the extension of the Royal Craft at that place, and I encouraged the brethren to take up the matter, with the result that a dispensation was asked for and granted, and on the 9th of October, accompanied by Rt. Ex. Comp. Watson and Ex. Comp. Johnstone, of Nelson, and armed with a dispensation, I went to Fort Steele and opened Rocky Mountain Chapter. At this place I had the pleasure of meeting Rt. Ex. Comp. Markley, Superintendent of Alberta District, who was with us at the opening, and I here thank him for his valuable assistance. I found the Fort Steele Companions enthusiastic and with all the supplies necessary for the proper exemplification of the work. Rev. Comp. Procunier who was largely instrumental in the organization of the Chapter, only a few days before my visit had been called to reside in another parish, and I was under the necessity of re-arranging the principal officers which I did by putting Ex. Comp. Armstrong in his place. In consequence of the removal of Comp. Procunier the officers were not up in their respective parts as well as I would have liked. However, as an example of their ability, Ex. Comp. Armstrong conferred the M.M.M. degree on two candidates in a very satisfactory manner, and was well assisted by the other members of his Chapter.

The Companions on the main line of the C.P.R. at Kamloops and Revelstoke, had long been agitating for a Chapter at one or the other of these places. Comp. Procunier's removal to the latter place seems to have added the necessary leaven, and about the middle of December I

received an application for a dispensation to hold a Chapter at Revelstoke. The dispensation having been granted, reached me on the 28th December, and I am now waiting for the Companions there to fix the time for their opening. I hope this will be effected before the meeting of Grand Chapter.

SCOTTISH CHAPTER AT NANAIMO.—On the 15th of December I received a communication from Comp. Fred McB. Young, of Nanaimo, giving me the welcome news that Keystone Chapter, No. 235, Grand Registry of Scotland, had finally surrendered their Charter to the parent body, and were ready to cast in their lot with the Grand Chapter of Canada. This for a long time had been a matter of great interest to the Vancouver Companions, and it is mainly to their efforts and the untiring exertion of Rt. Ex. Comp. Watson that the desired end has been attained. All the difficulty there is now, in placing Nanaimo on the Canadian Registry, is the way to do it. The Grand Scribe E. has kindly outlined the procedure and I hope to place the application of Nanaimo in due form before Grand Chapter at the coming annual Convocation. In the hands of Ex. Comp. Young, who has been the moving spirit at Nanaimo in this matter, I have no fears for the success of the Chapter if admitted to the Canadian Registry. There yet remains the Victoria Chapter on the Scottish Register in this Province, but in my conversation with some of its leading members I could not induce them to see their way to affiliating, at least at the present. I am hopeful, however, that in the near future they may realize the benefits of such an alliance so forcibly, that they will determine, like their sister Nanaimo, to become one of us.

WESTMINSTER CHAPTER, U.D., NEW WESTMINSTER.—I visited this Chapter on the 19th June, and found them domiciled in a fine hall with all the necessary paraphernalia, and saw the M.M.M. degree conferred in a very creditable manner by Ex. Comp. Armstrong, who has the work well in hand. The books are started out in good shape and the future of the Chapter looks promising. Their application for a charter will be presented to Grand Chapter, and I believe it may be safely granted, as they have among their members there, some of the most earnest and able workers in the field of Masonry that we have in this province.

VANCOUVER CHAPTER, NO. 98, VANCOUVER.—On the 20th of June I had the pleasure of visiting this Chapter. It is the oldest and strongest, and I might add the most prosperous in the District. I saw the R.A. degree conferred. In the beginning of the ceremony First Principal Brown was called away, but there was no hitch in the proceedings as some of the Past Z's. took up the work and it went on as if nothing had happened, and there seemed to be a legion of them who were ready for anything. I have very little more to say of this Chapter, only if they were more hospitable, earnest and enthusiastic when they were younger, I don't know what kind of people they were. I was told I was the first representative of the Grand Chapter, outside of one of their own members, who had visited them, and in consequence their reception of me gave me a feeling of awkwardness, for I realized that I was being treated better than I deserved. I may say here in this connection, that we have been long looking for a visit from some of the representative officers of Grand Chapter, but thus far we have been disappointed. We were led to hope last summer that the Most Ex. Grand Z. would find it possible to pay this province a visit. This pleasant anticipation we regret was not realized. We believe here such a visit would be conducive to much good to Royal Arch Masonry in this District, and we hope for the future.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN, U.D., FORT STEELE.—This is one of the new Chapters, and I have in a great measure dealt with it. It only remains for me to say that I think its prospects are bright. It now has three blue lodges from which to draw its support, and there are one or two others in prospect which will be in its jurisdiction. The members are earnest and enthusiastic, and in spite of its loss of its intended First Principal at almost the last moment, its members have got together and exalted five candidates. From my knowledge of its principal officers I feel sure the work was well done, and its application for a charter can be safely recommended.

NELSON, U.D., NELSON —I visited this Chapter on the 19th December and found everything working satisfactorily and harmoniously. The M.M.M. degree was conferred and the work was fairly done. The Chapter has a good set of officers and I believe its Scribe E. will present a creditable set of books for the inspection of Grand Chapter. I have a

very great deal of pleasure in recommending their application for a charter.

ROSSLAND CHAPTER, NO. 122, ROSSLAND.—On the 20th December I paid my official visit to this Chapter. I was generously received and saw the R.A. degree conferred by Ex. Comp. Mitchell and his officers in a manner that left me no grounds for criticism. They are now working in their new hall which is as fine and commodious as any in the province. Their membership is increasing and their prospects are very bright. They deserve their prosperity for they are all good fellows.

KOOTENAY CHAPTER, NO. 120, KASLO.—This is my own Chapter and I have been in attendance at all its Convocations in the past year. If there was any difference in my visits I suppose my official one was on the 13th December when I installed the officers for the ensuing year. They were all good men and true. The past year with this Chapter, while not as prosperous as some of its predecessors, has been a fairly good one and the outlook for the coming year is very promising.

I have visited all the Chapters at least once and have been uniformly received with kindness and cordiality, and to use an old time expression, I have "fared sumptuously" with them all. And the work has been a pleasure. But while this has been the case, I am forced to the conclusion that it would be better for the welfare of the District were it divided. In visiting the Chapters in the District this year, I have travelled over 1,600 miles, have spent about three weeks' time in doing it and the correspondence entailed has been considerable. It is a busy world, and this is almost more than should be expected from any individual. The province is a large one, and I think important enough in Royal Arch Masonry to make it justifiable for us to present this request. I have laid this matter before the Chapters and there has been no dissent. I believe all are in accord. If made, the Chapters on the main line of the C.P.R. could be put in one District, and the Kootenay's in another. This would give the coast District Vancouver, New Westminster, Revelstoke and Nanaimo. Although Revelstoke is in the Kootenay's, its being on the main line of the C.P.R. makes it easier of access to the coast cities. This would leave us in the interior with

Kootenay, Rossland, Nelson and Fort Steele. I hope Grand Chapter will see its way clear to make this division.

In conclusion, I have to thank the many Companions in the different Chapters for their kind and generous hospitality and for their assistance in my visits among them. I thank them for the honor done me, for the Superintendency of the British Columbia District is an honor of which anyone may feel proud. But especially I have to thank Rt. Ex. Comp. Watson for his help and advice. Because of the distance of the coast Chapters from Kaslo, I have had to look to him for a superintendence of the Chapters in his neighborhood and he has never failed me, and for the energy and perseverance he has displayed in the matter of the Nanaimo Chapter, I think he is entitled at least to the thanks of the Grand Chapter as well.

I herewith enclose a tabulated statement of the work done by, and the standing of, the Chapters in this District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. E. CHIPMAN,
Grand Superintendent of District No. 16.

Kaslo, B.C., Jan. 6th, 1901.

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTRICT, No. 16.

No.	Name.	No. of Regular Meetings.	No. Emergent Meetings.	Total No. Meetings.	Average Attendance Members.	Average Attendance Visitors.	Annual Dues per Member.	No. Members Last Return.	No. Petitions Accepted.	Candidates Initiated.	No. Affiliations.	No. Restorations.	No. Withdrawals.	No. Suspensions.	No. Deaths.	Present Membership.	M.M.M. Degrees Conferred.	M.E.M. Degrees Conferred.	R.A.M. Degrees Conferred.	No. Members 12 Months in Arrears.	Liabilities.	Assets.	In Cash.	In Property.	Dues Outstanding.	Amount of Insurance.	Prospects.	Can Z. Work all Degrees?
98	Vancouver	12	3	15	21.9	3	$3 00	149	26	24	..	..	4	..	..	169	24	24	25	61	.....	$2331 51	$1417 26	$400 00	$514 25	$100 00	Good.	Yes.
120	Kootenay	11	3	14	10 2/7	11/14	3 00	38	7	7	2	..	7	..	..	40	7	7	6	9	.....	745 12	438 37	300 00	36 75	200 00	Good.	Yes.
122	Rossland	11	9	20	13	2	2 00	32	13	13	1	..	..	..	..	46	13	13	13	5	$ 4 50	1068 55	545 53	482 87	40 15	500 00	Good.	Yes.
U.D.	Nelson	10	2	12	13	2	5 00	* 23	12	11	1	..	2	..	..	35	12	11	11	..	67 50	460 00	150 35	249 65	60 00	200 00	Good.	Yes.
U.D.	Westminster	5	8	13	10.08	4.66	3 00	* 11	10	10	..	..	..	..	..	21	10	8	6	..	.....	200 00	.....	200 00	.....	.....	Good.	Yes.
U.D.	Rocky Mountain	3	3	6	9	.....	3 00	* 9	6	5	1	..	..	..	..	15	5	5	5	..	.....	307 50	75 00	225 00	750 00	200 00	Good.	Yes.

*NOTE.—Charter Members.

ALBERTA DISTRICT, No. 17.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I beg to submit my annual report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in District No. 17. I had the pleasure of visiting all the Chapters in this District during the year, and also of instituting "Assiniboia" Chapter, U.D., in Medicine Hat with eleven charter members. I find that harmony prevails throughout the District. The increase in membership throughout the year has been above the average.

I had also the pleasure of being present at the instituting of the Rocky Mountain Chapter at Fort Steele, B.C., and of meeting the Grand Superintendent of British Columbia District, No. 16, R. E. Comp. Chipman. I spent three days in his company, much to my profit, and must congratulate that District on having such a model Superintendent. I also met several Companions who came with him. Among them R. E. Comp. H. H. Watson, the present Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of B.C. The Companions and brethren of Fort Steele left nothing wanting for the enjoyment of their guests.

ALBERTA, No. 106, CALGARY.—This Chapter, of which I am a member, I have been able to visit often. Owing to the South African war the second and third Principals and the Principal Sojourner left for the scene of battle in January, and since then two or three of the other officers have moved to other parts, consequently this Chapter has been at a disadvantage, but fortunately we have some Past First Principals who assist us in the work. The officers who left were among the most regular attendants, but we are expecting them to return before long. The increase in membership is small in comparison with last year, owing to a few suspensions and withdrawals. The financial standing of this Chapter is good, with no liabilities. The books are all complete, in good order, and written up to date, something the Scribe E., E. Comp. Brown, is proud of. The officers elected for the new year are well skilled, and will be regular attendants.

NORTH STAR, No 118, EDMONTON.—I visited this Chapter in January and installed the officers. I visited Edmonton again in August, but as the Companions had called off for

the hot months, we had no meeting. I was there again in November, but having given up the old hall for a new one in the centre of the town, and it not being quite completed then, we were unable to have a meeting. Since then I have had a letter from the Scribe E., telling me they have moved into their new quarters and they have now one of the finest halls in the west. The working of this Chapter is good, and they have all the necessary paraphernalia.

Although their membership has a small decrease, and the same in their finances, they will more than make it up during the coming year. A dispensation to wear regalia to Divine Service was issued on June 24th, 1900. The books are in good order and written up to date.

WASCANA, No. 121, REGINA.—This Chapter seems to have awakened up this last month. For some time it has been in a dormant condition, but I have received a letter from the Scribe E. telling me they had an election of officers, the first in two years. I visited this Chapter last April and saw the R.A. degree worked fairly well, and I predict a better showing for next year, owing to having E. Comp. McIntosh in the chair. The outstanding dues of this Chapter are far too large for their welfare, and I trust will be lessened very shortly. The books are written up to date but are not as complete as I would like to see them.

ASSINIBOIA, U.D., MEDICINE HAT.—This Chapter, with the assistance of E. Comp. Brown, I instituted on December the 7th with eleven charter members. We exalted three candidates, whilst a few more are waiting for that honor. Ex. Comp. Rae is a Past First Principal, and with the assistance of the Second and Third Principals the Chapter is in good hands. They have all the necessary paraphernalia for working the degrees. Their books are not complete yet as they are waiting for the number of the Chapter, when they will order a complete set.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. W. R. MARKLEY,

Grand Superintendent, Alberta District No. 17.

Calgary, N. W. T., December 28th, 1900.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SCRIBE E.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of R. A. Masons of Canada.

COMPANIONS,—I beg to report that a number of the Chapters are again tardy with their annual returns, notwithstanding frequent and earnest appeals. While the showing for the year is, even under those circumstances, in excess of the preceding year, the true condition of affairs cannot be made sufficiently clear while so much information is lacking.

Those Chapters which maintain a permanent Scribe E. and Treasurer are invariably to the front each year, while the majority of those who change these officers annually, are distinguished by the tardiness complained of.

The blank forms are dispatched each year before the end of November, with a request that they be returned immediately after the December Convocation. Within ten days of this Annual Convocation, I was compelled to send out a supplementary appeal to nearly half the Chapters on the roll, and no less than twenty of these had not been heard from at the time of closing the books. The result of this seeming neglect is obvious. Much unnecessary toil, and consequent discomfort are crowded into the few days prior to the Convocation, and I would earnestly ask the co-operation of the First Principals of the Chapters to bring about a stricter attention to punctuality in this respect in the future.

CHAPTERS RESUSCITATED.

Despite these drawbacks, the bright side of the picture is revealed in the activity displayed at certain points where dry rot in previous years apparently disclosed itself. Through the good offices of R. E. Comp. Shaw, Grand J., aided by an active First Principal, St. John's Chapter at Morrisburg, which had lapsed into coma, early in the year succeeded in paying up its indebtedness, and has added considerably to its membership since.

Under instruction, peremptory notices to show cause why the charter should not be forfeited, were sent through the Grand Superintendents to the Principals of the Chapters at Mattawa, Rat Portage and Shelburne. In the cases of the two former, the amounts owing were received at this office, together with intimation that both were again actively working. There was no reply from the third.

New Chapters.

On the 9th July last application was received from a number of Companions at Fort Steele, B. C., praying for a warrant of constitution.

On the 27th October, 1900, eleven Companions residing at Medicine Hat, N. W. T., petitioned for a Chapter, and on 19th December, 1900, twelve Companions resident at Revelstoke, B. C., made similar application.

In each case the consent of the nearest Chapter accompanied the petition, as also the certificate of the Grand Superintendent of the respective Districts, that the Companions were in possession of the necessary equipment, and that the prospects for each were sufficient to justify the establishment of Chapters at those places. Certificates of the good standing of the Companions applying were also furnished in each instance.

Under instruction from the M. E. the Grand Z., I filled out and forwarded the required letters of Dispensation, duly signed and sealed.

The following are the names of the applicants as appended to the respective petitions :

Rocky Mountain U. D., Fort Steele, B C.—James Ferguson Armstrong, No. 120, G. R. Canada ; James Duncan McBride, No. 120, G. R. Canada ; Arthur Wellesley Bleasdell, No 120, G. R. Canada ; R. L. Galbraith, No. 2, G. R. Washington ; John L. Larsen, No. 3, Utah ; Alex. Moffatt, No. 16, G. R. Canada ; Donald McKay, No. 5, Idaho ; Arthur Downey, No. 44, G. R. Canada ; Geo. H. Gilpin, No. 6, G. R. Washington.

Assiniboia U. D., Medicine Hat, Alta. — Robert Nelson, No. 106, G. R. Canada ; James Rae, No. 101, G. R. Canada ; Richard Cecil Becker, No. 52, G. R. Canada ; William Crawford, No. 52, G. R. Canada ; Samuel Douglas, No. 58, G. R. Canada ; Elijah Lydon Becker, No. 90, G. R. Canada ; Stephen S. Lloyd, No. 52, G. R. Canada ; Geo. K. Kerr, No. 4, G. R. Canada ; Thomas M. McKay, No. 52, G. R. Canada ; William Alex. Burton, No. 106, G. R. Canada ; John Armstrong, No. 82, G R. Canada.

Revelstoke U. D., Revelstoke, B. C.—Charles Ault Procunier, No. 120, G. R. Canada ; Henry J. Bourne, No. 98, G. R. Canada ; James W. Cross, No. 98, G. R. Canada ; Alfred E. Solloway, No. 98, G. R. Canada ; Hugh Breen, No. 98, G. R. Canada ; Thomas Sweeney, No. 98, G. R.

Canada; Charles Temple, No. 98, G. R. Canada; Thomas H. Corley, No. 126, G. R. Michigan; William F. O'Brien, Carleton, G. R. New Brunswick; Geo. F. Risteen, No. 98, G. R. Canada; Thompson E, L. Taylor, No. 98, G. R. Canada; Fred. Morrow, No. 98, G. R. Canada.

SCOTTISH CHAPTER AT NANAIMO. — On the 22nd December I received through R. E. Companion E. E. Chipman, Grand Superintendent of British Columbia District, the request of certain Companions of Keystone R. A. Chapter, No. 235 on the Grand Registry of Scotland, for a warrant of affiliation, together with a copy of resolution passed unanimously at a Convocation called for the purpose, agreeing to surrender their old warrant and apply to come in under the Grand Chapter of Canada. The resolution was signed by the Companions present. These documents are now before Grand Chapter.

The following is the financial statement and list of receipts from Chapters:

CASH STATEMENT.—GRAND SCRIBE E.

DR.

From Chapters.—Certificates	$ 558 00		
Registration Fees	574 50		
Membership Dues	1269 30		
Dispensations	108 00		
Warrants	30 00		
Constitutions	39 80		
Sundries	50 40		
		$2630 00	
Interest.—Toronto General Trusts	$ 80 00		
Industrial School Bonds	680 00		
		760 00	
Total			$3390 00

CR.

March 29th, 1900.—Grand Treasurer	$ 200 00		
June 15th, " "	100 00		
Aug. 2nd, " "	100 00		
July 1st, " "	40 00		
Dec. 18th, " "	200 00		
" 26th, " "	400 00		
Jan. 3rd, " "	400 00		
Jan. 2nd, 1901 "	40 00		
" 8th, " "	680 00		
" 9th, " "	400 00		
" 18th, " "	830 00		
Total			$3390 00

ANNUAL STATEMENT, 31st DECEMBER, 1900.

RECEIPTS FROM CHAPTERS.

1	Ant. F. & Cataraqui	$28 40		Brought Forward	$1448 10
2	The Hiram	72 40	66	The Malloch	10 40
3	St John's	85 40	67	Enterprise	49 10
4	St. And. & St. John's.	28 80	68	Maitland	7 20
5	St George's	57 20	69	Grimsby	1 00
6	St. John's	53 00	70	Grand River	11 00
7	The Moira	34 20	72	Keystone	14 20
8	King Solomons	55 80	73	Erie	23 20
15	Wawanosh	66 70	75	St. Clair	10 00
16	Carleton	30 20	76	Mount Hebo	26 00
18	Oxford	39 60	77	Occident	56 00
19	Mount Moriah	29 60	78	Minnewawa	30 20
22	Grenville	23 60	79	Orient	28 20
23	Ezra	53 00	80	Ark	59 00
24	Tecumseh	35 80	81	Aylmer	18 70
27	Manitou	25 80	82	Shuniah	16 70
29	McCallum	27 00	84	Lebanon	15 00
30	Huron	22 30	90	Golden	23 10
31	Prince Edward	60 30	91	Antiquity	39 30
32	Waterloo	17 90	94	Midland	20 30
34	Signet	34 40	98	Vancouver	81 80
36	Corinthian	22 00	100	St. Lawrence	30 00
37	Victoria	21 80	101	Corinthian	25 60
40	Guelph	52 60	102	Algonquin	26 10
41	Harris	12 40	103	St. John's	14 00
44	Mount Sinai	15 80	104	White Oak	7 20
45	Excelsior	20 40	106	Alberta	27 40
46	St James	19 60	110	Warkworth	7 80
57	Wellington	34 60	112	St. John's	69 30
50	Saugeen	15 40	113	Covenant	38 60
52	Prince Rupert	61 80	114	Bonnechere	22 20
53	Bruce	33 00	115	Brant	11 80
54	Palestine	64 40	116	Maple	19 80
56	Georgian	26 80	117	Berlin	13 80
57	King Hiram	4 80	118	North Star	7 00
58	Pembroke	25 00	119	King Cyrus	27 80
59	Sussex	22 80	120	Kootenay	29 80
60	Doric	16 60	121	Wascana	26 40
61	Granite	2 00	122	Rossland	45 10
62	York	10 00		U. D. Nelson	34 50
63	Havelock	37 40		U. D. Westminster	15 40
64	Wilson	14 00		U. D. Rocky Mountain	37 50
65	St. Paul's	33 50		U. D. Assiniboia	25 00
				U. D. Revelstoke	29 00
	Carried Forward	$1448 10			$2579 60
Interest, Toronto General Trusts				$ 80 00	
" Industrial School Bonds				680 00	
Sundries				50 40	
					810 40
Total					$3390 00

There are now 94 warranted Chapters on the roll, 5 under dispensation and 1 applying for affiliation, making in all 100, the largest number yet recorded, while the total membership is over 6000, also a record number. The net gain in membership for the year, from returns received to date, is 345.

Respectfully sumbmitted,

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Grand Scribe E.

REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER.

HUGH MURRAY, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER.

1900.			Dr.	
Jan'y		To Balance, as per Statement, at this date		$2173 57
Mar.	26,	To Grand Scribe E.,		200 00
June	15,	"	(Interest, Toronto Industrial School Bonds)	340 00
"		"		100 00
July	2,	"	(Interest, Toronto General Trust Bond)	40 00
Aug.	2,	"		100 00
Dec.	2,	"	(Interest, Toronto Industrial School Bonds)	340 00
"	19,	"		200 00
"	27,	"		400 00
1901.				
Jan'y.	4,	"		400 00
"	5,	"	(Interest, Toronto General Trust Bond)	40 00
"	12,	"		400 00
"	19,	"		830 00
			Total	$5563 57

1900.			Cr.	
Jan'y	30	By Order 985,	Grand Scribe E., Advance of incidentals	$125 00
		" 986,	Grand Scribe E., Balance of incidentals	16 50
	31	" 987,	R.E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, Foreign Correspondence Report	100 00
		" 984,	Comp. John Robertson, Services as Janitor	5 00
		" 983,	Globe National Patriotic Fund Donation	300 00

Feb'y.	1	By Order	1008,	Comp. Frank P. Gassion	25 00
	2	"	1001,	Mrs. J. S. Baker	10 00
	3	"	997,	Comp. Arch. Couper	20 00
	5	"	996,	Comp. Charles W. Smith	20 00
	3	"	1002,	Mr. R. Rankin	15 00
	6	"	1007,	Comp. Chas. W. Brown	25 00
	7	"	992,	Comp. J. Fred. Holman	10 00
	7	"	990,	Mrs. J. Kennedy	10 00
	7	"	997,	Mrs. C. E. J. Black	5 00
	7	"	1025,	Mrs. William Merriott	7 50
	7	"	991,	Mrs. Edmond Hill	10 00
	9	"	995,	Mrs. John Vaux	10 00
	12	"	993,	Mrs. T. D. Harington	20 00
	12	"	1003,	Mrs. Peter Grant	10 00
	13	"	1005,	Mrs. C. E. Burdon	10 00
	19	"	1000,	Mrs. W. B. Wallace	5 00
	19	"	1010,	Rolph Smith & Co., per Certificates	60 00
	22	"	1006,	Mrs. Philip J. Thomas	10 00
	29	"	994,	Miss Kerr	5 00
Mar.	15	"	999,	Comp. Frederick Mudge	20 00
	16	"	989,	Mrs. John Morris	10 00
	27	"	1003,	Grand Treasurer's Salary	12 50
	29	"	1011,	Robt. Johnston for work at Office.	22 27
	30	"	1012,	Dudley & Burns for Proceedings	271 25
April	3	"	1014,	The Grand Scribe E., Salary	175 00
	5	"	988,	Mrs. S. A. Blondheim	15 00
	28	"	1015,	M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, "History of Freemasonry"	60 00
July	4	"	1020,	The Grand Treasurer's Salary	12 50
	6	"	1021,	The Grand Scribe E., Salary	175 00
	6	"	1018,	The Grand Scribe E., Rent	75 00
	6	"	1016,	D. Henderson, Engrossing Warrants	8 00
	9	"	1017,	Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates	65 00
	9	"	1019,	Grand Z 's Travelling Expenses	94 85
	16	"	1031,	Comp. Arch. Couper	20 00
Aug.	14	"	1042,	Comp. F. P. Gassion	25 00
	14	"	1043,	Hunter Rose Co.	19 25
	15	"	1033,	Comp. Fred. Mudge	20 00
	15	"	1041,	Comp. Chas. W. Brown	25 00
	15	"	1035,	Mrs. J. S. Baker	10 00
	15	"	1024,	Mrs. John Kennedy	10 00
	15	"	1025,	Mrs. Edmund Hill	10 00
	15	"	1026,	Mrs. Fred Holman	10 00
	17	"	1030,	Comp. Chas. W. Smith	20 00
	17	"	1027,	Mrs. T. D. Harington	20 00
	17	"	1034,	Mrs. W. B. Wallace	5 00
	18	"	1039,	Mrs. C. E. Burdon	10 00
	21	"	1032,	Mrs. C. E. S. Black	5 00
	21	"	1038,	Mrs. Wm. Merriott	7 50
	23	"	1036,	Mrs. Hugh Rankin	15 00
	23	"	1037,	Mrs. Peter Grant	10 00
	24	"	1028,	Miss Kerr	5 00
	25	"	1040,	Mrs. Philip J. Thomas	10 00
	29	"	1022,	Mrs. S. H. Blondheim	15 00

Sept.	1	By Order	1044,	American Security Co., Security on Bonds	15 00
		"	1023,	Mrs. John Munro	10 00
	17	"	1045,	Grand Z., on Account Treasurer's Expenses	60 00
	24	"	1029,	Mrs. John Vaux	10 00
Oct.	9	"	1048,	Grand Scribe E., Salary	175 00
	20	"	1047,	Grand Treasurer's Salary	12 50
	20	"	1046,	Copp Clark & Co. per Charters	75 00
Nov.	9	"	1049,	Grand Z., on account of Travelling Expenses	25 00
Dec.	12	"	1052,	Grand Scribe E., Rent	75 00
	14	"	1051,	M. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh Exps. Gr. Council, Toronto	15 00
	17	"	1050,	Rolph Smith & Co., Stationery	4 50
1901.					
Jan'y.	8	"	1055,	Grand Z., Balance of Travelling Expenses to 31st Dec	20 85
	9	"	1053,	Grand Scribe E., Salary to 31st Dec.	175 00
	11	"	1054,	Grand Treas., Salary to 31st Dec.	12 50
				Total	$2807 47

Statement of Assets of Grand Chapter, 22nd January, 1900.

Bonds, Toronto General Trusts Company, @ 4%	$ 2,000 00
Bonds, Toronto Industrial School, @ 4%	17,000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce	2,756 10
Total	$21,756 10

Canadian Bank of Commerce,
Hamilton, 19th January, 1901.

We hereby certify that the above-named bonds are in the custody of the Bank for safe keeping, on account of Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and that the balance at the credit of the said Hugh Murray, as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, on the books of the Bank, at the close of business, at this date, is two thousand seven hundred and fifty-six dollars and ten cents. ($2756.10.)

D. B. Duncan, *Manager*,
Hugh Polson, *Accountant*.

Fraternally submitted,
Hugh Murray,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, for the year 1900, be received and referred to the Executive Committee, for audit and to report thereon at the present Convocation.

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

Letters expressing regret at inability to be present were received from R. E. Comps. W. B. McArthur, Ottawa ; R. G. W. Conolly, Dunnville ; J. G. Crosby, Highgate, and others.

The Grand Scribe E. read a communication from R. E. Companion Chas. H. Patton, Grand Representative of Canada, near the Grand Chapter of Illinois, conveying the greetings of the latter body and expressing gratification at the recent fraternal visit of the M. E. the Grand Z. to that Grand Chapter on the occasion of the celebration of its Semi-Centennial in Chicago, and his appropriate response at the banquet to the toast, "The Royal Craft Universal."

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

R. E. Companion William Forbes, representative of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, addressed Grand Chapter as follows : —

Most Excellent Sir :—The opening reference in your address to this Grand Chapter on the loss of our beloved Sovereign was exceedingly appropriate, and thoroughly endorsed by every member of this Grand Chapter.

As representative of the Grand Chapter of Illinois at this Grand Chapter, I desire to express the kind and fraternal sympathy of the Grand Chapter of Illinois to these Companions of Canada on their loss, through the death of a Sovereign whose record as a just and righteous ruler has never being equalled, and whose influence for good will be felt while time shall last, and while extending our sympathies on the loss of one, so good, so great, we feel we can also justly congratulate you on the accession to the throne, of one whose first public utterances were that he desired to follow in the footsteps of his illustrious mother—we therefore extend our sympathies and our congratulations, with the sentiment, "Long Live the King."

R. E. Companion C. W. Postlethwaite, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, said :

"The Grand Chapter of Iowa sends fraternal and courteous greetings to the Grand Chapter of Canada, and desires to express its profound sympathy with the Grand Chapter of Canada which, in common with the Dominion of Canada and the whole British Empire, now laments the death of the Queen."

ADDRESS TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and unanimously

Resolved,—That a Committee be appointed to prepare an humble address to His Majesty King Edward VII, expressive of the profound sorrow felt by the Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada at the death of our beloved Queen, and conveying assurance of their deep loyalty and devotion to His Majesty's person and Crown, and that the following comprise the Committee to carry out the wishes of this Grand Chapter, M. E. Comps. J. J. Mason, J. E. Harding, J. Ross Robertson and M. Walsh.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of that Committee, which on motion of R. Ex. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, was received and ordered to be printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Your Committee on Warrants beg to report that the Companions of Westminster Chapter, New Westminster, B.C., working under dispensation from the Grand Z. for the last fifteen months, have held their meetings regularly and have received and exalted a number of eligible candidates. The books of the Scribe E. are well kept, and indicate that the prospects are very bright. We recommend that a charter be granted by this Grand Chapter.

The Companions of Nelson Chapter, at Nelson, B.C., working under dispensation from the Grand Z. since November 28th, 1899, have been doing active work, having received and accepted twelve applications for exaltation. They are well appointed and the books are neatly kept. We recommend that a charter be granted by the Grand Chapter.

The Companions of Rocky Mountain Chapter, located at Fort Steele, B.C., under dispensation dated October 9th, 1900, have held meetings regularly and have done good work.

The books are models of neatness. We recommend that a charter be granted to this Chapter.

A petition was presented by eleven Companions of Assiniboia Chapter, Medicine Hat, N.W.T., and a dispensation was issued October 29th, and although their books did not reach the Committee in time for inspection, we find from letters received from R. Ex. Comp. A. W. R. Markley, Grand Superintendent of Alberta District, that this Chapter is doing excellent work, and he vouches for the equipment and fitness of the officers. We are of the opinion the issue of a charter would be very beneficial and encouraging, and therefore recommend that such be granted.

The Companions of Revelstoke Chapter, located at Revelstoke, B.C., working under dispensation from the Grand Z., dated 11th December, 1900, have not forwarded an account of work done owing to their brief existence as a Chapter. We therefore recommend that the dispensation be continued.

Your Committee feels much gratification in stating that an application for a Warrant of Affiliation has been received from the Companions of Keystone R. A. Chapter, No 235, under the Register of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, and located at Nanaimo, B C. We cordially recommend that their petition be acceded to by this Grand Chapter, and a Warrant of Affiliation be granted, and that the Grand Z. be authorized to accord the Chapter a number.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. BIRRELL,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. W. Birrell, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented a report on

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the M. E. the Grand Z. and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Your Committee on Audit and Finance desire to report that they have examined the books, vouchers, etc., of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, together with the Bank Statements to 19th January, 1901, and find agreement and accuracy in every respect.

The following is a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for year.

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand 19th January, 1900	$ 2,173 57	
Certificates	558 00	
Registration Fees	574 50	
Membership Dues	1,269 30	
Dispensations	108 00	
Warrants	30 00	
Constitutions	39 80	
Sundries	50 40	
Interest "Industrial Bonds"	680 00	
" "Toronto General Trusts"	80 00	
Total Receipts		$ 5,563 57

DISBURSEMENTS.

Orders on Benevolence	$ 545 00	
Salaries, Scribe E	700 00	
" Treasurer	50 00	
Foreign Correspondence	100 00	
Rent, Temple Building	150 00	
Printing—Dudley & Burns—Proceedings	271 25	
" Rolph, Smith & Co	129 50	
" The Hunter Rose Co.	9 25	
" Copp, Clark & Co—Warrants	75 00	
Travelling Expenses—Grand Z	200 70	
Globe National Patriotic Fund	300 00	
Engrossing Warrants	8 00	
"History of Freemasonry," by J. Ross Robertson	60 00	
Guarantee Bonds	15 00	
Incidentals—Repairs, Grand S. E. Office	22 27	
Janitor	5 00	
Attending Grand Council, M. Ex. Comp. Walsh	15 00	
Advance, Grand Scribe E	125 00	
" Balance, Grand Scribe E	16 50	
Total Disbursements		$2,807 47
Balance on hand in Bank of Commerce		2,756 10
		$5,563 57

INVESTMENTS.

Industrial School Bonds	$17,000 00	
Toronto General Trusts	2,000 00	
Balance, Canadian Bank of Commerce	2,756 10	
Total Investments		$21,756 10

LIABILITIES.

Grants for Benevolence	$625 00
Foreign Correspondence	100 00
Incidentals—Grand Scribe E., Advance, 1901	150 00
" " Balance, 1900	29 00

Your Committee have much pleasure in again referring to an increase in the membership of Grand Chapter—for while the net increase for the year 1899 was 280, the increase for 1900 shows a net gain of 330.

Your Committee would recommend that the salary of the Grand Scribe E. be increased by $100, as the work of the office has materially increased during the past two years.

Your Committee would also recommend that the Grand Chapter supply copies of certificates and warrants, which were destroyed by the fire in London, for St. John's Chapter, No. 3, and St. George's, No. 5, free of charge.

Further, we desire to express our satisfaction of the manner in which your Grand Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. George J. Bennett, and your Grand Treasurer, R. Ex. Comp. Hugh Murray, have discharged the duties of their respective offices, which show the skill and ability of these officers to whom the Grand Chapter has committed these important duties.

A. SHAW,
Chairman Committee on Audit and Finance.

Moved by R. Ex. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

GRIMSBY CHAPTER NO. 69, V. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER NO. 6.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals in the matter of the appeal of Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby, *versus* St. John's Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, begs to report:

That the Companion exalted by St. John's Chapter and claimed by Grimsby Chapter was exalted in March, 1887.

That apart from the question whether he was within the jurisdiction of Grimsby Chapter or not, which is not by any means clear from the evidence, the matter is outlawed both by the law of Masonic Trials and by the Constitution of Grand Chapter, as no notice of appeal was given until the 3rd day of January instant.

Your Committee therefore recommends that the appeal be dismissed.

LAWRASON ET. AL. V. WILSON.

The Committee on the appeal of Lawrason and others *versus* Wilson, all of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, begs to report :

That from the certified minutes of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, the proceedings were clearly irregular under Section 1, Article 5, of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, and recommends that the matter be referred back to the Chapter with instructions to place the accused on trial forthwith, hear the evidence and decide the matter as required by Masonic law and usage.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

D. F. MacWatt, *Chairman.*

Toronto, 22nd Jan'y, 1901.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Grievances and Appeals be received and adopted.

Grand Chapter at 1.30 p.m. was called from labour to refreshment. At 2.30 p.m. Grand Chapter resumed labour.

The Executive Committee presented the report on the

GRAND Z's. ADDRESS.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

The Executive Committee begs leave to present the following report on the Address of the M. E. the Grand First Principal :—

Most appropriately the opening sentence contains a brief but touching reference to the passing away, yesterday, of our beloved Queen. Loved and venerated to a degree which has perhaps never before been attained by an earthly monarch,

she has paid the last debt of nature, and all that is mortal will in a few short days be left to the silence of the tomb, there to await the glad summons that will come to her and to all faithful followers of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords on the bright resurrection morn. Gentle and kind and yet so firm of purpose, tender in heart and true and yet so strong of will, queenly and yet withal so womanly and loving, she prevailed where man could not have prevailed, and she guided and controlled where man would have been powerless. Her own world-wide sympathies and her own great sorrows served but to intensify the love of her people for her and to blend inseparably their warmest affection with their unswerving and sincere loyalty. The flag flies low on many a stately building and lowly cottage in many a land to-day, and we mourn the irreparable loss of a just and upright monarch, a wise and constitutional ruler, and a loving and sympathetic friend to all, both high and low alike, within her broad dominions.

The Committee has every confidence that the wishes of the M. E. the Grand Z. with respect to the successor to the Throne will be amply fulfilled and that His Majesty the King will in all things give proof of the careful training and beneficial influences by which he has been guided from boyhood to the present time.

The Committee heartily endorses the warm tribute given by the Grand Z. to those brave Canadians who in common with their comrades throughout the Empire responded so promptly and so eagerly to Britain's call for aid in consequence of the war, the flames of which, unhappily, are not quite extinguished, and who have borne themselves with a courage, intelligence and dash that have elicited the warmest words of praise and commendation from Britain's high commanders on far distant South African plains and hills, as well as from those high in authority and position in the motherland. Wounds and disease and death, endured with true British patience and resignation, have unfortunately been the portion of many of those who left our shores a year or more ago. We deeply sympathize with the relations and friends of those who have suffered and died in the Empire's cause and we welcome back with glad acclaim those who in God's good providence have been permitted to return to their former occupations.

The Committee joins with the Grand Z. in his expressions of regret at the death of a large number of Companions, both within and without our borders, and who occupied more or

less distinguished positions in and whose services to the Royal Craft are set forth in many a kind and thoughtful obituary memorial.

The Committee notes with much pleasure that the substantial progress made in Capitular Masonry as reported last year has steadily continued during the year just closed, and that a very gratifying feature in connection with last year's operations was the unconditional and voluntary surrender of the warrant of the Scottish Chapter at Nanaimo, and an immediate application by that Chapter to our Grand Chapter for a warrant of affiliation. Let us give a warm and fraternal welcome to the members of this new addition to our roll, and at the same time let us hope that the remaining Chapter not of our allegiance on the shores of the Pacific may speedily see its way clear to follow the example so happily set by the the Nanaimo Companions.

The Committee is glad to learn that the Grand Z. has again had the good fortune to be enabled to make official visits to the number of about 25, to as many different Chapters, and that his visits have been marked with much that was necessarily pleasing to him personally, and with many evidences of loyalty on the part of the Chapters to the distinguished position held by him.

The Committee notices with much pleasure that with one exception the Grand Superintendents of the several Districts have performed their important duties with zeal and fidelity, and to their efforts is due in no small degree the continued prosperity of the Royal Craft.

The Committee marks with pleasure the cordial and sympathetic reception accorded to the M. E. the Grand Z. on the occasion of his visit to Chicago in October last, to attend the celebration of the semi-centennial of the Grand Chapter of Illinois

The Committee has great pleasure in asking Grand Chapter to concur in the appointment of R. Ex. Comp. R. A. Atwood, of Boston, as our representative near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and congratulates M. E. Comp John E. Harding, and R. Ex. Comps. R. G. W. Conolly and C. W. Postlethwaite on their appointment as representatives respectively of the Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, Maryland and Iowa.

The Committee cannot see its way clear to concur with the recommendation of the Grand Z. to restrict the right of

Companions to give notice of motion for submission to Grand Chapter.

The Committee heartily agrees with the reference contained in his address to the excellent and satisfactory manner in which the Grand Scribe E. has performed his onerous and responsible duties and heartily congratulates Grand Chapter in having secured so efficient and faithful an officer.

In his valedictory to Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. expresses his satisfaction with the sympathy and kindness accorded to him in his official capacity during his term of office, an experience which others before him have received and expressed, because the composition of this Grand Body is such that the honest endeavors of any Grand Z., backed as in the case of M. E. Comp. Reid, by geniality and energy, have and always will receive ready and appreciative recognition.

The Committee ventures to express the hope that for many years to come Grand Chapter may have the benefit of the light of his countenance at its annual Convocations.

Fraternally submitted,

J. J. MASON,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on the

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The closing year of the 19th century has been a most successful one so far as the condition of Capitular Masonry, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada, is concerned. After a careful review of the reports submitted by sixteen of the Superintendents, the one from Algoma not being yet received, your Committee feels justified in saying that the work of the Superintendents, with one exception, has been well and faithfully performed, and the progress has been very satisfactory. Most of the Superintendents report good progress in their

Districts, and that peace and harmony have prevailed. The outlook for this, the first year of a new century, is exceedingly pleasant and gratifying.

Your Committee had, unfortunately, last year to report five Chapters as being "weak," but this year it is pleased to say that with the exception of Seymour Chapter, No. 38, at Shelburne, the other four have taken on renewed life and vigor, and give every prospect of being live and progressive Chapters once more, all of which is exceedingly gratifying to your Committee. As we understand that the Grand Z. has called upon the Principals of Seymour Chapter to show cause why their charter should not be withdrawn we would leave the matter in his hands to deal with.

Your Committee is pleased to note that the repeated suggestions of this Committee that the Chapters should look after the important matter of being secured by insurance has borne fruit as very few Chapters are now reported as being without it.

On the 16th November of last year, in Toronto, the 100th anniversary of St. Andrew's and St. John's Chapter, No. 4, was celebrated, on which occasion the M. E. the Grand Z., with a large number of prominent Royal Arch Masons, was present to do honor to the Chapter. A very able address was given by the Second Principal, Ex. Comp. H. T. Smith, and as it dealt not only with the early history of the Chapter itself, but with the early history of the Royal Craft in Canada, your Committee would recommend that the address be printed with the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, as it will prove not only interesting but instructive to many who are not so well acquainted with the early history of the Royal Craft in Canada as they would like to be.

Your Committee would like to lay stress upon the great progress which has been made in the Province of British Columbia. There are now three warranted Chapters and three under dispensation in the Province. Those under dispensation, it is hoped, will be given their Charters. The Superintendent, in a very able report, recommends that the Province be divided into two Districts, and your Committee agrees with him that it would be to the interest of Grand Chapter to do so. The work is extending fast, and the District is too large for any one person to look after it as it deserves. It is a matter of congratulation that the Chapter at Nanaimo, under the Scottish Register, has surrendered its charter and asks to

be admitted to the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and your Committee expresses the hope that it will receive a hearty welcome and be dealt with as liberally as we possibly can. It is to be hoped that the only other Chapter in British Columbia not owing allegiance to this Grand Body will soon see its way to join us also.

Your Committee is again able to congratulate Grand Chapter upon the zeal and ability with which the Most Excellent the Grand Z. has carried out that important part of his duties in visiting so many of the Chapters and consulting and advising with them in matters connected with the Royal Craft, thereby encouraging and stimulating them to greater zeal and activity.

The report of the Superintendent of St. Clair District is a good one, as he reports progress all along the line. He says the six Chapters in the District "are situated in good Masonic centres, and there is no reason why the Royal Craft should not show marked progress in the future, as all of the Chapters, as far as I can learn, are working might and main to out-rival their sisters, both in the work and in membership." He also speaks of good results which were apparent from t e two visits paid to the District by the M. Ex. the Grand Z.

The Superintendent of London District reports conditions satisfactory. Each of the seven Chapters is progressing favorably and in a healthy condition. Your Committee agrees with him when he says, "Dues might be collected more promptly." All the Chapters, save one, viz., Wawanosh, No. 15, Sarnia, sent in returns, and the prospects for the future in this District are good.

The report of the Superintendent of Wilson District states that all the Chapters are making satisfactory progress. The Superintendent in closing says, "On the whole it has been a very prosperous year for Capitular Masonry in Wilson District. They started the year with four live Chapters and one practically dead, and now close the year with five live and sound Chapters in the District, which is most gratifying to all concerned in the District."

Your Committee is pleased to know that the efforts to restore life to Brant Chapter, No. 116, Paris, were so successful that it is now on "good footing."

The Superintendent of Wellington District sends in an encouraging report. He says "That peace and harmony have been unbroken and not a complaint or irregularity has been brought to my notice."

The returns show a slight increase in members and that four Chapters have done exceedingly well.

Your Committee concurs in the action taken by the Most Ex. the Grand Z., in calling upon the Principals of Seymour Chapter, No. 38, to show cause under Article 16, Section 6, why the charter should not be recalled. The prospects of this Chapter in no way improved during the past year, and it is no use allowing it to remain as it is.

The report of the Superintendent of Hamilton District is of a pessimistic character. He says, "I would be drawing too largely on my imagination if I were to say that the condition of the Royal Craft in this District was all that could or should be expected and desired. The progress made during the last year in all the Chapters, save one, has been discouraging to the enthusiast."

He reports St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, as in a dormant state, and although visited by him twice, and on the second occasion accompanied by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. and others, when the candidates received the M. M. degree, the hopes he entertained then that good results would follow have not been realized. The incoming Superintendent is requested to look closely after this Chapter. No returns were sent in by it.

The prospects of the other Chapters are reported as being fair.

The Superintendent of Huron District reports "That there is perfect harmony, not only between the Chapters in this District, but also with those in adjoining Districts."

He visited all the Chapters but two, and it seems to be no fault of his that he did not visit these.

He also reports that he found want of interest on part of Companions generally as shown by the poor attendance at the regular meetings.

On the whole the prospects are good, but three Chapters report having no insurance. Their attention is called to the wishes of this Grand Chapter on this subject, and the hope is expressed that they will attend to the matter without delay.

Your Committee gathers from the report of R. Ex. Comp. J. A. Grobb, who was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the lamented death of R. E. Comp. Geo. Hyatt, that the Chapters in the Niagara District are fairly prosperous.

No returns were received from any of the Chapters.

The Superintendent of Toronto District gives an interesting account of his visits to the various Chapters, and reports that harmony and prosperity prevail throughout the District. He also recommends to Grand Chapter the necessity of having a uniform minimum fee for exaltation in any city or town where there is more than one Chapter working. The subject is worthy of the careful consideration of Grand Chapter.

The prospects of the Royal Craft in this District are good.

In most of the Chapters the outstanding dues are altogether too large, and need more closely looking after.

There comes no regular report from the Georgian District, as the Companion who was elected as Superintendent never took any steps to be installed and assumed none of the duties of the office and neglected to notify the Grand Officer that he would not act, and it was not until December last he sent what notices and letters he had received to R. E. Comp. James Whitton, who ably filled the office last year, and he also notified the Grand Scribe E. of what he had done. Comp. Whitton, at the request of the M. E. Grand Z., took over the duties and did what he could, but he had no time to visit the Chapters. From the returns sent in by three out of the five Chapters we gather that there has been a slight increase in membership. The percentage of outstanding dues seems to be altogether too large.

The Superintendent of Ontario District sends in a full and an encouraging report. He says, "I have been able to pay a visit to each of the Chapters during the year, and I must say that they as a whole have made progress and are in a better condition than they were when last reported. I find that the officers are able to do their work in a creditable manner, and I can say with confidence that Ontario District will not take second place with any of the other Districts, but is in the front rank."

The financial condition is good, and all the officers of the different Chapters appear to be able men, who are socially and mentally of the first rank—men who outside the Chapters are leading men in their own professional and business spheres. The same, however, can be said of the officers in all the Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction.

The report from Prince Edward District is short, but concise. The Superintendent says, "I found the Craftsmen all alive, and in each Chapter enough of earnest and zealous

material to encourage the hope that whatever has been accomplished during the past year will be improved upon in next."

His statistical figures show a net gain in membership of six.

From the Superintendent of St. Lawrence District comes a most encouraging report. He finds that R. A. Masonry in his District is in a flourishing condition and the financial condition of the Chapters satisfactory.

He says, "I am more than pleased to be able to report that by my efforts and the able assistance of R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw, Grand J., one Chapter has been given a new lease of life," referring to St. John's Chapter, No. 112, Morrisburg, which was reported as one of the weak Chapters last year. The membership in the District increased by twenty-seven. Three of the Chapters appear to have no insurance, although their financial condition shows them well able to pay for it.

A good report comes from the Superintendent of the Ottawa District. He says, "I have visited all the Chapters once, and one twice, and am glad to report that harmony prevails throughout the District. The officers of the various Chapters are very regularin their attendance, and the work done is up to the standard. The increase in membership has surpassed that of 1899, and I have succeeded in getting the only weak Chapter in the District to work once more. The outlook for the first year of the twentieth century is, to say the east, very promising."

Your Committee is pleased to see that the efforts made to resuscitate Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, Mattawa, have been partially successful, and we would like to see the action taken or the recall of the charter stayed for a year to see what progress it will make.

The report from Manitoba District is a very short one, owing, no doubt, to the fact that the Superintendent did not visit any of the Chapters out of his own town, the reasons given being sickness in the first part of the year and a pressure of business in the latter. However, from the returns sent in he reports Prince Rupert's Chapter, No. 52, and Corinthian Chapter, No. 101, as both in a very prosperous condition. He cannot say as much for Zeredatha Chapter, No. 111, which appears to be in poor shape last year, but things are looking better, and he hopes to see it in full swing again this year.

From British Columbia comes the best and most encourag-

ing report your Committee has had before it. The Superintendent has been very faithful in the discharge of his duties, having visited every Chapter and opened three new ones. He reports the prospects of all the Chapters as being good. He says, "In visiting the Chapters in this District this year I have travelled over 1600 miles, have spent about three weeks time in doing it, and the correspondence entailed has been considerable. It is a busy world and this is almost more than should be expected from any individual." He then goes on to give other reasons why the District should be divided, and his opinion as to how it could be best accomplished.

The report of the Superintendent of Alberta District, which is also too large for any individual to visit, is a good one. He visited all the Chapters and instituted Assiniboia Chapter in Medicine Hat. He found harmony prevails throughout the District. The increase in membership throughout the year has been above the average.

From Alberta Chapter, No. 106, Calgary, the Second and Third Principals and the Principal Sojourner left for the war in South Africa, all honor to them, and the hope is expressed that they may all return in the best of health, and we trust that any official rank which they may lose in their own Chapter by reason of their being away in such a good cause will be made up to them by this Grand Body.

The prospects of Capitular Masonry throughout the great North-west are of the brightest.

We have again to mourn the loss by death of several of our well-known and beloved Companions, among whom may be mentioned :—R. E. Comp. Col. R. Lewis, P.G.S., London District ; R. E. Comp. R. Brierly, P.G.S., Hamilton District ; R. E. Comp. Geo. Hyatt, Grand Supt., Niagara District ; R. E. Comp. D. McNaughten, P.G.S., Ontario District ; R. E. Comp. C. W. Brown, P.G.S., Toronto District ; R. E. Comp. J. H. Murney, P.G.S., Prince Edward District ; and Ex. Comp. Felt, Z., of Pentalpha Chapter, No. 28.

May we all learn to be ready, as we trust they all were, for we know not how soon the summons may come to any one of us who remain.

Your Committee cannot close this report without expressing the great sorrow and grief we all experience at the sad news which comes to us of the passing away of our beloved Queen and the Mother of the head of our Order in the Old Land.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM ROAF,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. W. Roaf, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

The Executive Committee presented the report on

BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Benevolence has examined the applications for relief presented to it, and respectfully recommends that the following grants be made :—

Comp.	Chas. W. Smith,	No.	28	$40 00
"	Archibald Couper,	"	29	40 00
	Mrs. C. E. Black,	"	29	20 00
	" Jonas S. Baker,	"	37	40 00
	" Wm. B. Wallace,	"	37	10 00
	" S. H. Blondheim,	"	1	30 00
	" John Monro,	"	1	20 00
Comp.	Frank P. Gassion,	"	77	50 00
	Mrs. Chas. A. Burdon,	"	2	20 00
	" Eliza M. J. Thomas,	"	2	20 00
	" Donald McLeod	"	30	20 00
	" T. D. Harington	"	8	40 00
	" Hugh Rankin,	"	44	30 00
	Miss Kerr,	"	16	10 00
	Mrs. Peter Grant,	"	54	20 00
	" Wm. Marriott,	"	54	15 00
Comp.	Frederick Mudge,	"	35	40 00
	Mrs. Edmund Hill,	"	6	30 00
	" John Kennedy,	"	6	20 00
	" John F. Holman,	"	6	20 00
Comp.	Wm. Duff,	"	3	40 00
Comp.	Wm. Hawthorn,	"	3	50 00
Comp.	James O'Connor,	"	52	50 00
				$675 00

Fraternally submitted,

J. E. HARDING, *Chairman.*

January 22nd, 1901.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Gibson, seconded by Ex. Comp. J. E. Harding, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

M. E. M. DEGREE.

The Grand Council presented the report on the M. E. M. degree.

Companions,—Pursuant to the recommendation of the M. E. the Grand Z., and endorsed by Grand Chapter at the last annual Convocation, that the request of a number of Chapters for a restoration of the M. E. M. degree in its entirety, should be considered by the Grand Council, a meeting was held on the afternoon of the 23rd November, 1900, in the Committee room of the Masonic Hall, Temple Building.

There were present: M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, Grand Z., R. E. Comps. W. Gibson, Grand H., and A. Shaw, Grand J., and the following Past Grand Z's.: M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, D. Ross, M. Walsh. Communications on the subject had been received from M. E. Comps. J. Ross Robertson and J. J. Mason. The Grand Scribe E. acted as Secretary.

The matter having been discussed at length, it was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, and resolved, "That the present work as authorized by Grand Chapter be continued without change."

Attest,

GEO. J. BENNETT, *Grand Scribe E., Secretary.*

W. G. REID, *Chairman*

Toronto, Nov. 23rd, 1900.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Grand Council *re* the M. E. M. degree be received and adopted.

THE GRAND TREASURER.

In accordance with notice, it was moved by M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, seconded by M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, and

Resolved,—That Sec. 15, Art. 1, of the Constitution, page 16, be amended by adding after the word "Scribes" in the seventh line the words "and the Grand Treasurer."

RE-NOMINATION OF GRAND PRINCIPALS.

Ex. Comp. E. J. W. Burton, in accordance with notice moved, seconded by Ex. Comp. H. A. Ward, that Section 9,

Art 1, of the Constitution, be amended by adding after the word "elected" in the twelfth line, "provided that in the case of the three Grand Principals no Companion can be re-nominated for a second term in the same office."

The motion being put to Grand Chapter, it was declared lost.

CHAPTER PROXIES.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. D. F MacWatt, seconded by R. E. Comp. Dewar, and

Resolved,—That Sec. 2, Art. 2, page 13 of the Constitution, be amended by erasing the words "of the Chapter," in the fourth line, and also by erasing the words from "and" in the twelfth line to the word "Chapter" in the thirteenth line, and the words "or the proxy" in the fourteenth line.

THE MINIMUM FEE.

Ex. Comp. E. Herbert Briggs, moved, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. Mahony, Sr., that Section 2, Art. 4 of the Constitution, be amended by striking out the word "ten" in the fourth line and substituting the word "twenty," and to insert after the word "dollars" in the fourth line the words "in cities or towns where there are more than two Craft lodges, in all other Chapters the fee shall not be less than ten dollars."

The motion being put to Grand Chapter it was declared lost.

COMMITTEE ON BENEVOLENCE.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt, seconded by E. Comp. T. H. Brunton, that the retiring member of the Committee on Benevolence be continued for the term of three years.

The motion being put to Grand Chapter, it was declared carried unanimously.

The following Companions comprise the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee of Grand Chapter for their respective terms:—

M. E. Comp.	R. B. Hungerford, London,	retires in	1902
M. " "	J. E. Harding, Lindsay,	"	1903
R. " "	J. S. Dewar, London,	"	1904

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. The M. E. the Grand Z. appointed as scrutineers of the ballot, R. Comps. Fred. Walter, W. G. Coulter and W. T. Toner.

The results of the elections were as follows :—

M. E. Comp.	W. Gibson, Beamsville,	Grand Z.
R. E. "	A. Shaw, Kingston,	Grand H.
" "	D. H. Martyn, M.D., Kincardine,	Grand J.

Grand Chapter was then called off for the space of fifteen minutes to enable the districts to select their Grand Superintendents for the ensuing year.

Grand Chapter resumed labour, when the following nominations were submittted to the M. E. the Grand Z., who was pleased to approve in each case, and the selections were confirmed.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	W. C. Coulson, Leamington,	St. Clair Dist. No.	1
" "	W. F. Cooper, Petrolea,	London " "	2
" "	James Hamilton, Weodstock,	Wilson " "	3
" "	John McLaren, Orangeville,	Wellington " "	4
" "	W. H. Spears, Oakville,	Hamilton " "	5
" "	Rev. J. W. Hodgins, Seaforth,	Huron " "	6
" "	J. C. Rothery, Niagara Falls, S.,	Niagara " "	7
" "	George J. Mason, Toronto,	Toronto " "	8
" "	W. J. Sutherland, Barrie,	Georgian " "	9
" "	A. G. Henderson, Whitby,	Ontario " "	10
" "	Henry Pringle, Belleville,	Pr. Edward " "	11
" "	N. J. Fraid, Cornwall,	St. Lawrence " "	12
" "	Robert Pollock, Almonte.	Ottawa " "	13
" "	R. H. Knight, Sault Ste Marie,	Algoma " "	14
" "	J. M. Suttie, Winnipeg,	Manitoba " "	15
" "	N. Gatewood, Vancouver,	British Columbia "	16
" "	A. W. R. Markley, Calgary,	Alberta " "	17

The election of Grand Officers was then resumed with the following results :—

R. E. Comp.	G. J. Bennett, Toronto,	Grand Scribe E.
" "	Hugh Murray, Hamilton,	Grand Treasurer.
" "	W. H. McFadden, Brampton,	Grand Scribe N.
" "	T. H. Brunton, Newmarket,	Grand Prin. Sojr.
" "	W. J. Hallett, Barrie,	Grand Registrar.
" "	J. H. Pritchard, Toronto,	Grand Janitor.

The following Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :—

R. E. Comp. W. Roaf..... .....Toronto.
" " D. F. MacWatt.....Sarnia.
" " W. T. Toner ..... Collingwood.
" " W. Birrell ....Hamilton.
" " R. J. Craig..... . .....Cobourg.

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

The following places were nominated for the Annual Convocation in January, 1902 : The cities of Toronto and Hamilton, and the town of Port Hope. The M. E. the Grand Z., declared Toronto to be the choice of the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

R. E. Comp. W. Forbes, of Grimsby, expressed his deep sense of appreciation of the action of Grand Chapter in unanimously passing, at the the previous Annual Convocation, a most fraternal resolution of condolence on the occasion of the untimely death of his only son, Ex. Comp. W. D. Forbes He feelingly referred to the incident as another, though, sorrowful link, that bound him to his Companions of the Royal Craft.

TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. W. G. REID.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar, seconded by M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, and

Resolved,—That a committee be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, P. G. Z., in token of Grand Chapter's appreciation of the zealous work done by him during the last two years.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford gave notice that at the next Annual Convocation he would move that British Columbia District, No. 16, be divided, and to be known in future as British Columbia District, No. 16, and Kootenay District, No. 16A., the former to embrace the Chapters at

Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo ; and the latter, those at Kaslo, Rossland, Nelson, Fort Steele and Revelstoke, and that Section 4, Article 1, of the Constitution be amended in accordance therewith.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, assisted by M. E. Comp. M. Walsh, then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the usual honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

The following Companions were subsequently appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z. to office in Grand Chapter :

V. E. Comp.	E. Herbert Briggs, Toronto,	Grand	Senior	Sojourner
" "	Norman Brownell, Winnipeg,	"	Junior	"
R. E. "	Jas. B. Nixon, Toronto,	"	Lecturer	
V. E. "	Eben C. Russell, Windsor,	"	Sword Bearer	
" "	Thos. Pedlar, Hamilton,	"	Master of 1st Veil	
" "	Richard Dowling, Harriston,	"	Master of 2nd Veil	
" "	Joseph Belasco, Petrolia,	"	Master of 3rd Veil	
" "	R. S. Hays, Seaforth,	"	Master of 4th Veil	
" "	J. P. Thompson, Belleville,	"	Standard Bearer	
" "	W. J. Qu;nlan, Nelson, B.C.,	"	Director of Ceremonies	
" "	J. Young, Regina, N.W.T.,	"	Organist	
" "	John B. McPhee, Barrie,	"	Pursuivant	
" "	A. D. Harkness, Morrisburg,	"	Steward	
" "	Lewis T. Davis, Nanaimo,	"	"	
" "	Allan J. McAdam, Almonte,	"	"	
" "	F. Killmer, St. Catharines,		"	

The M. E. the Grand Z. further appointed the undermentioned Companions to the Executive Committee :

R. E. Comp.	John Leslie	.....	Winnipeg
" "	William Walker	.....	Toronto
" "	Jonathan Greene	.....	Brockville
" "	J. Earl Halliwell	.....	Stirling
" "	George Moore	.....	Hamilton

VOTE OF THANKS.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. W. Gibson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and are hereby tendered to the Companions of the Toronto Chapters, for their kindly attention and fraternal reception of the officers and members of Grand Chapter, as well as for the arrangements made for the Forty-Third Annual Convocation of this Grand Body.

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in Ample Form, at 6.30 p.m.

Geo. J. Bennett

Grand Scribe E.

TORONTO, January 23rd, 1901.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

O.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	Regular Meeting.	First Principal Z	Scribe E.	Admissions.	Joinin.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths	Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	An Front. and Cat'i..	Kingston	Third Friday	W. T. Minnes	Wm. Thomson	1			2	2	1	65		4
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	Fourth Friday	A. Sache	Fred. Walter	16	3		1	1	1	170	16	
3	St. John's	London	Fourth Wednesday	Oliver Ellwood	John Callard	20		2		4		164	18	
4	St. And. and S. John..	Toronto	First Friday	Hy. T. Smith	W. H. Blight	4		1	4	10	1	104		10
5	St. George's	London	Fourth Friday	W. A. Buchner	Chas. C. Reed	8						136	8	
6	St. John's	Hamilton	Second Thursday	C. Smith	W. J. McAllister	5	2		1	3	3	210		
7	Moira	Belleville	First Tuesday	Jas A. Phillips	Wm. McKeown	5			3	8	1	112		7
8	King Solomon's	Toronto	First Wednesday	J. A. Carveth	John Roberts	6	2	1	5	3		185	1	
15	Wawanosh	Sarnia	Second Friday	Geo. S. Samis	W. A. Wiggins	20	1		2		2	131	17	
16	Carleton	Ottawa	Third Friday	W. H. Morgan	W. G. S. Reynolds	8			3	2	1	76	2	
18	Oxford	Woodstock	Third Monday	W. A. Karn	H. A Biggins	12		1	2	3	1	60	7	
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines	Friday on or b. f. m.	Fred. Killmer	A. E. Swayzie	5					1	98	4	
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford	First Friday	John S. Gray	Thomas Kerr	7			4			72	3	
22	Grenville	Prescott	Second Tuesday	W. H. Logan	J. N. Graham	4			1	3		53		
23	Ezra	Simcoe	Thursday after f. m.	Robt. S. McGill	W. P. Kelley	9	1		1		1	113	7	
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	First Monday	Chas. Bews	J. Russell Stewart	8			2	5		99	1	
26	St, Mark's	Trenton	Tuesday on or af. f. m.	J. D. Rowe	Robt Robertson				2			39		2
27	Manitou	Collingwood	Friday bef. f m	Robert Hughes	Frank B. Gregory	7		1			1	59	7	
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa	Second Friday	J. F. Grierson	L. K. Murton	3				2	1	45		
29	McCallum	Dunnville	Friday on or af. f. m.	Jos. Ewing	J. B. Sheehan	1						43	1	
30	Huron	Goderich	Third Tuesday	Alex. Lawson	W. D. Tye	5	1				1	59	5	
31	Prince Edward	Picton	Monday on or af. f. m.	R. A. Williamson	Ed. W. Case	18	1	3		7	2	121	13	
32	Waterloo	Galt	Second Monday	And. J. Oliver	Chas. Blake	3	2		2		1	52	2	
34	Signet	Barrie	Second Tuesday	Warren Johnson	W. J. Hallett	8			2		2	97	4	
35	Keystone	Whitby	Third Friday	Fred. Hatch	W. J. H. Richardson	3						55	3	
36	Corinthian	Peterboro'	Third Tuesday	Alex. Gibson	W. E. Conway	2		1	1			68	2	
37	Victoria	Port Hope	Second Friday	H. A. Ward	W. G. Coulter	3				9		55		6
38	Seymour	Shelburne										28		
40	Guelph	Guelph	Second Friday	H. Mahony	Chas. Kelley	5			1	7		70		3
41	Harris	Ingersoll	Second Friday	Jas P. Boles	J. F. Williams	1						52	1	
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Wednesday after f. m.	W. F. Gerow	J. G. Fennell	3						44	3	
45	Excelsior	Colborne	First Tuesday	C. S. Strong	V. G. Cornwall	4			1			62	3	
46	St. James	St. Marys	Third Friday	W. Webster	F. S. Sharp	6						33	6	
47	Wellington	Chatham	Second Thursday	W. H. Bensen	Alex. Gregory	11	2		2			58	11	
48	St. John's	Cobourg	Friday on or b. f. m.	John W. Odell	Robt. Buck	2					1	47		
50	Saugeen	Mitchell	Thursday on or b. f. m.	Wm. Elliott	W. G. Hinds	2						28		

52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg	First Thursday	Robt. Magness	J. M. Cosgrave	11			4	23		184		71
53	Bruce	Petrolea	First Thursday	R. G. Denham	Joseph Belasco	7			4		2	95	1	
54	Palestine	St. Thomas	Second Thursday	J. Belfrey	W E. Idsardi	13			2	2	2	134	7	
55	Niagara	Niagara	Thursday after f. m.	Fred'k Masters	Richard Briggs	2					1	20	1	
56	Georgian	Owen Sound	Third Tuesday	R. McDowell	John Rutherford	7	1			7		54	1	
57	King Hiram	Port Colborne	First Thursday	Robert Gillies	Thos. J. O'Neill						1	19		1
58	Pembroke	Mattawa	Third Tuesday	C W.Haintschel, M.D.	T. J. Harwood							40		
59	Sussex	Brockville	Third Friday	Thos. Dowell	Geo. K. Dewey	3			1			79	2	
60	Doric	Newmarket	First Wednesday	L. Atkinson	J. E. Hughes	2			1			58	1	
61	Granite	Almonte	Second Tuesday	Nelson Washburn	A. J. McAdam	9						36	9	
62	York	Eglinton	First Thursday	R. J. Gibson	W. E. Hofland	1						38	1	
63	Havelock	Kincardine	Third Thursday	A. Campbell	M. J. Macpherson	4						55	4	
64	Willson	Welland	Last Wednesday	W. E. Barker	J. H. Crow	2						50		
65	St Paul's	Toronto	Second Wednesday	Alf'd F. Webster	H. B. Anderson	5	1		1		1	108	4	
66	The Malloch	Seaforth	Third Monday	L. C. Jackson	R. S. Hays	2			2			32		
67	Enterprise	Harriston	First Monday	John Praine	R. J. Wells	9						51	9	
68	Maitland	North Augusta	Friday afttr f m	J. Chapman	J. H. McCully	1						31	1	
69	Grimsby	Grimsby	First Wednesd'y alt mo.	Rich'd Lipsitt	W B. Vandyke	2					1	50	1	
70	Grand River	Bracebridge	Third Thursday	Isaac Huber	Francis P Warne					1	2	45		3
71	Prince of Wales	Amherstburg	Monday after f m	H. A. Hacket	Thos. Hobley, M.D.							32		
72	Keystone	Stirling	Wednesday bef. f. m.	Gilbert Bedford	J. Earl Halliwell	2			1		1	34		
73	Erie	Ridgetown	Monday after f. m.	Geo. W. Moody	Geo. Middleditch	5			1			48	4	
75	St Clair	Milton	Second Tuesday	Conrad Hoff	R. Coates							22		
76	Mount Nebo	Niagara Falls S.	Friday on or af. f. m.	S. J. Vanderburg	J. C. Hull	8				3	2	50	3	
77	Occident	Toronto	Second Friday	John Drew	Harry Brown	19	1		4		2	85	14	
78	Minnewawa	Parkhill	Friday on or af. f. m.	Geo. Sutherland	Wm. Dawson	10			1	2	1	46	6	
79	Orient	Toronto	Fourth Thursday	W. J. Chick	R. J. Beeman	6						94	6	
80	Ark	Windsor	Second Monday	R. H. Revell	A. E. Edgar	15	2	1	3		2	103	13	
81	Aylmer	Aylmer	Friday on or af. f. m.	J. B. Ogilvie	J E Richards	3	1					61	4	
82	Shuniah	Port Arthur	Third Friday	W. H. Smith	John Ritchie	3	1		4	5		52		5
83	Ionic	Orangeville	Tuesday after f. m.	Jas. A. Glover	D. McPherson	7			3			62	4	
84	Lebanon	Wingham	Third Tuesday	J. S. Borden	R. Vanstone	1			5			28		4
86	Macpherson	Meaford	Thursday after f m	F D. Kent	W. A Sing							28		
88	MacNabb	Dresden	First Thursdsy	Edw. Worth	J. B. Carscallen							48		
90	Golden	Rat Portage	Second Wednesday	T. W. Chapple	Angus Carmichael							21		
91	Antiquity	Toronto	Third Monday	Francis Blackburne	F. E. Luke	10	1		3		1	94	7	
94	Midland	Lindsay	Third Thursday	J. J. McMahon	G S. Patrick	5	1					49	6	
95	Tuscan	Sudbury	Tuesday after f. m	C. R. Reid	W. A Evans							34		
98	Vancouver	Vancouver	Second Wednesday	T. M. Couperthwaite.	Herbert Brookes	24			4			169	20	
100	St. Lawrence	Brockville	First Thursday	S. R. Stayner	Robert Meade	8			1	3	1	55	3	
101	Corinthian	Boissevain	Wednesday after f. m.	R. G. Willis	J. D. Baine	9				2		38	7	
102	Algonquin	Sault Ste. Marie	Second Friday	M. McFadden	T. H Elliott	8	1		1	1		48	7	
103	St John's	North Bay	First Friday	H. G Reid	A. J. F. Cobb	3		2	1	8		45		4
104	White Oak	Oakville	Second Tuesday	W. H. Morden	W. O. Joyce				1	1	1	36		3
106	Alberta	Calgary	First Tuesday	Geo. Macdonald	E. Nelson Brown	6	2		2	4		67	2	
110	Warkworth	Warkworth	Wednesday after f. m.	A. M. Hamilton	H. E. Ewing	1			2			37		1
111	Zeredatha	Morden, Man.	First Wednesday	P. Rutherford	H. Meikle							26		

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

No.	Name of Chapter.	Where Held	Regular Meeting.	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Admissions.	Joinings.	Restorations.	Withdrawals.	Suspensions.	Deaths.	Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
112	St. John's	Morrisburg	Tuesday on or af. f.m.	A. D. Harkness	S. B. Fell	11	1	...	1	....	1	39	10	....
113	Covenant	Cornwall	Third Wednesday	H. R. Gregor	F. Bisset	12	....	2	....	....	....	70	14	....
114	Bonnechere	Renfrew	Third Monday	R. C. Timmins	M. McKinnon	6	....	....	...	....	....	51	6	....
115	Brant	Paris	Second Tuesday	S. Y Taylor	W. M. Whitehead	2	....	....	1	3	1	27	....	3
116	Maple	Carleton Place	First Tuesday	P. A. Garvin	F. Donald	6	...	....	....	1	....	39	5	....
117	Berlin	Berlin	Third Friday	Geo. E. Harper	W. R Birely	2	1	....	....	1	....	34	2	....
118	North Star	Edmonton	Second Tuesday	G. T. Bragg	J. W. Morris	1	....	....	2	....	....	25	....	1
119	King Cyrus	Leamington	Tuesday after f m.	R. Hillier	J. S. Greenhill	9	..	....	....	....	....	44	9	....
120	Kootenay	Kaslo	First Tuesday	Robert T. Green	Alex Menzies	7	2	....	7	....	....	40	2	....
121	Wascana	Regina	Second Thursday	J. M. Young	R. B. Fergusson	....	....	....	....	....	....	42	....	....
122	Rosslaad	Rossland	First Tuesday	G. A. Mitchell	Keith Lackey	13	1	....	....	....	....	46	14	....
123	Nelson	Nelson	Third Wednesday	Geo. Johnstone	E. W. Matthews	13	4	....	2	....	....	36	15	....
124	Westminster	New Westminster	Fourth Thursday	Thos. J. Armstrong	David P Sanderson	10		....	....	....	....	21	10	....
125	Rocky Mountain	Fort Steele	Second Tuesday	J. F. Armstrong		5	9	....	....	....	....	14	14	...
126	Assiniboia	Medicine Hat	Friday on or bef. f. m.	James Rae		....	11	....	....	....	....	11	11	....
UD	Revelstoke	Revelstoke	First Tuesday	Chas. A. Procunier		....	12	.	....	..	....	12	12	...
						554	68	15	107	136	46	6215	422	74

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on the Roll	100
" Chapters Represented	73
" Registrations	554
" Joinings	68
" Restorations	15
" Withdrawals	107
" Suspensions	136
" Deaths	46
Total number on the Roll	6215

Net gain 348

EXPULSION. U.M.C.

No. 8. Thos. Sargant.

SUSPENSIONS. N.P.D.

No. 1. Wm. Gibb, W. M. Waldren.

No. 2. William Reid.

No. 3. W. Gatecliffe, W. A. Brock, C. C. Gibson, Geo. Riddle.

No. 4. H. M. Armstrong, Robt. Aitken, John Barker, N. V. Kuhlman, J. Odell, J. Perks, W. G. Quigley, F. E. Smith, W. J. Summerville, H. N. Williams.

No. 6. A. W. Ardiel, James Bigley, W. G. McAndrew.

No. 7. W. S. Busley, F. W. Bresee, C. P. Hunter, James McGuire, T. C. Lazier, Wm. Smeaton, Theo. Spafford, H. P. Thompson.

No. 8. A. Gilchrist, J. T. Matthews, W. Christie.

No. 16. R. Davey, G. McNeil.

No. 18. W. D. Grigg, A. Bain, F. Lanigan.

No. 22. W. Mossman, G. H. L. Kennedy, H. Madge.

No. 24. W. Gillespie, H. S. Wright, H. J. Powell, W. H. Neil, F. C. McLeod.

No. 28. W. G. Armour, Julius Kœnigk.

No. 31. C. Atkin, E. Clark, R. B. Mastin, A. McDonald, N. A. McDiarmid, G. L. Hough, H. W. Bronscombe.

No. 37. W. R. Pethick, E. B. C. Avery, Thos. White, M. J. O'Brien, John Owen, F. H. Coombe, M. Kelly, J. R. Montizambert, G. Burnham.

No. 40. E. Quigley, P. Anderson, J. Taylor, J. King, A. Robertson, J. Philip, W. D. Tawse.

No. 52. W. M. Corbett, D. S. Collins, J. G. Dagg, W. Gordon, W. J. Heminway, W. H. Jackson, J. D. Jones, D. F. Johnston, J. M. Johnson, F. G. Lawin, M. Lawin, W. W. Matthews, M. McCoor, W. P. Riddell, C. J. Pauser, W. H. Rourke, R. Steeves, W. C. Sheldon, F. W. Sprado, T. G. Thomson, R. Wyatt, C. Williams, F. P. Welch.

No. 54. J. Bevington, J. E. Slaght.

No. 56. W. R. Gilbert, H. P. Adair, J. Sanderson, C. Robertson, F. B. Fenwick, P. W. Sabistan, J. Chalmers.

No. 70. E. Goldthorp.

No. 76. D. D. Garner, J. E. Jones, J. Barry.

No. 78. E. J. Clark, J. McPherson.

No. 82. W. G. Smith, A. W. Thompson, C. J. McLennan, J. Peterson, J. K. McLennan.

No. 100. T. Brady, T. G Ballantyne, J. A. Demerest.

No. 101. T. D. Peters, Ben Steele.

No. 102. J. C. Roland.

No. 103. S. A. Huntingdon, T. B. Chapin, W. H. Burgess, W. T. Plummer, J. E. Young, W. A. Washburne, M. Carr, W. A. West.

No. 104. A. W. Kemp.

No. 106. T. Harris, F. Harper, J Brogden, E. W. Webb.

No. 115. J. B. Dalzell, W. Baker, D. Sheppard.

No. 116. F. Fisher.

No. 117. A. Chatfield.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 3. William Howie, W. W. Rodgers.
No. 4. Thos. Marshal.
No. 8. Joseph Raffan.
No. 16. W. F. Coker.
No. 27. David Beatty.
No. 31. Edwin Clark, D. B. Clapp, W. B. Leavens.
No. 36. E. H. D. Hall.
No. 77. H. J. M. Wilson.
No. 80. W. Clement.
No. 103. M. Carr, W. T. Plummer.
No. 113. J. C. Pitts, M. W. Ridley.

Our
Departed
Companions
IN MEMORIAM

Deaths.

No. of Chap.	NAME.	DEATHS.
1	John Donnelly	July 13th 1900
2	J. R. Vert	March 31st
4	Thos. Hills	February 11th
5	R. Lewis	December 15th
6	W. Teale	March 25th
6	R. Evans	August 29th
6	R. Brierly	October 23rd
15	J. J. Dryden	March 2nd
15	B. Yapp	October 16th
16	C. R. Church	April 20th
18	W. A. B. Yoe	November 9th
19	W. H. Read	November 19th
23	Jas. Gilmour	August 4th
27	Jas. Lindsay	January 20th
28	E. O. Felt	November
30	Jas. Hays	May 11th
31	J. H. Murney	February 28th
31	T. J. Soby	May 15th
32	J. Herbert Scott	July 29th
34	J. H. McKeggie	December 4th
34	Thos. W. Simpson	December 6th
34	Henry Harper	April 6th
48	D. McNaughton	June 21st
52	S. Duffin	July 26th
53	A. K. Sturgeon	September 23rd
53	Chas. A. Simmons	November 8th
54	R. A. Mackay	December 23rd 1899
54	Ed. Smith	January 16th
55	Robt. Frizette	October 13th
57	Edgar B. McRae	September 29th
65	Chas. W. Brown	August 8th
69	W. D. Forbes	January 22nd
70	A. P. Cornell	April 11th
70	R. H. Hutchison	June 5th
72	Thos. Foster	October 24th
76	Geo. Hyatt	March2 7th
76	J. A. Lowell	April 10th
77	A. R. Fraser	March
77	R. W. Purvis	June 2nd
78	Donald J. McCuish	December 9th
80	W. Atkinson	October 5th
80	J. Tschirhart	
100	Th. Kearns	January 20th
104	Walter Ashton	
112	Robt. Lyle	April 12th
115	A. N. Parney	November

R. Ex. Companion

Chas. W. Brown

P. G. SUPT.

Died 8th August, 1900

TORONTO

R. Ex. Companion

John Henry Murney

P. G. SUPT.

Died 28th February, 1900

PICTON

R. Ex. Companion

George Hyatt

GRAND SUPT.

Died 27th March, 1900

NIAGARA FALLS

R. Ex. Companion

David McNaughton

Died 21st June, 1900

COBOURG

R. Ex. Companion

Col. Robert Lewis

P. G. SUPT.

Died 15th December, 1900

LONDON

R. Ex. Companion

Richard Brierly

P. G. SUPT.

Died 23rd October, 1900

HAMILTON

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER.

THE GRAND Z.

M. E. Comp. William Gibson.....Beamsville

THE GRAND H.

R. E. Comp. A. Shaw.....Kingston

THE GRAND J.

R. E. Comp. Dewitt H. Martyn.....Kincardine

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	W. C. Coulson, Leamington,	St. Clair	Dist.	No.	1
" "	W. F. Cooper Petrolea,	London	"	"	2
" "	James Hamilton, Woodstock,	Wilson	"	"	3
" "	John McLaren, Orangeville,	Wellington	"	"	4
" "	W. H. Spears, Oakville,	Hamilton	"	"	5
" "	Rev. J. W. Hodgins, Seaforth,	Huron	"	"	6
" "	J. C. Rothery, Niagara Falls,	Niagara	"	"	7
" "	George J. Mason, Toronto,	Toronto	"	"	8
" "	W. J. Sutherland, Barrie,	Georgian	"	"	9
" "	A. G. Henderson, Whitby,	Ontario	"	"	10
" "	Henry Pringle, Belleville,	Pr. Edward	"	"	11
" "	N. J. Fraid, Cornwall,	S. Lawrence	"	"	12
" "	Robert Pollock, Almonte,	Ottawa	"	"	13
" "	R. H. Knight, Sault Ste Marie,	Algoma	"	"	14
" "	J. M. Suttie, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"	"	15
" "	N. Gatewood, Vancouver,	British Columbia	"	"	16
" "	A. W. R. Markley, Calgary,	Alberta	Dist.	"	17

GRAND SCRIBE E.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett.....Toronto

GRAND SCRIBE N.

R. E. Comp. W. H. McFadden.....Brampton

GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

R. E. Comp. T. H. Brunton.....Newmarket

GRAND TREASURER.

R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray.....Hamilton

GRAND REGISTRAR.

R. E. Comp. W. J. Hallett.....Barrie

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	E. Herbert Briggs, Toronto,	Grand	Senior Sojourner.
" "	Norman Brownell, Winnipeg,	"	Junior Sojourner.
R. E. "	James B. Nixon, Toronto,	"	Lecturer.
V. E. "	Eben C. Russell, Windsor,	"	Sword Bearer.
" "	Th. Pedlar, Hamilton,	"	Master 1st Veil.
" "	Richard Dowling, Harriston,	"	" 2nd Veil.
" "	Joseph Belasco, Petrolea,	"	" 3rd Veil.
" "	R. S. Hays, Seaforth,	"	" 4th Veil.
" "	J. P. Thompson, Belleville,	"	Standard Bearer.
" "	W. J. Quinlan, Nelson B. C.,	"	Dir. of Ceremo-
" "	J. M. Young, Regina, N. W. T.,	"	Organist. [nies.
" "	John B. McPhee, Barrie,	"	Pursuivant.
" "	A. D. Harkness, Morrisburg,	"	Steward.
" "	Lewis T. Davis, Nanaimo, B.C.,	"	"
" "	Allan J. McAdam, Almonte,	"	"
" "	F. Killmer, St. Catharines,	"	"

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, Kingston, President.

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. E. Comp.	J. E. Harding	Lindsay
" "	Donald Ross	Picton
" "	Robert Hendry, Jr.	Kingston
" "	R. B. Hungerford	London
" "	J. J. Mason	Hamilton
" "	Henry Robertson	Collingwood
" "	Kivas Tully	Toronto
" "	J. Ross Robertson	Toronto
" "	M. Walsh	Ingersoll
" "	W. G. Reid	Hamilton
R. E. "	D. H. Martyn	Kincardine

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	W. C. Coulson, Leamington,	St. Clair	Dist.	No.	1
" "	W. F. Cooper, Petrolea,	London	"	"	2
" "	James Hamilton, Woodstock,	Wilson	"	"	3
" "	John McLaren, Orangeville,	Wellington	"	"	4
" "	W. H. Spears, Oakville,	Hamilton	"	"	5
" "	Rev. J. W. Hodgins, Seaforth,	Huron	"	"	6
" "	J. C. Rothery, Niagara Falls,	Niagara	"	"	7
" "	Geo. J. Mason, Toronto,	Toronto	"	"	8
" "	W. J. Sutherland, Barrie,	Georgian	"	"	9
" "	A. G. Henderson, Whitby,	Ontario	"	"	10
" "	Henry Pringle, Belleville,	Pr. Edward	"	"	11
" "	N. J. Fraid, Cornwall,	St. Lawrence	"	"	12
" "	Robert Pollock, Almonte,	Ottawa	"	"	13
" "	R. H. Knight, Sault Ste. Marie	Algoma	"	"	14
" "	J. M. Suttie, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"	"	15
" "	N. Gatewood, Vancouver,	British Columbia	"	"	16
" "	A. W. R. Markley, Calgary,	Alberta	Dist.	"	17

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett, Toronto.....Grand Scribe E.
" " W. H. McFadden, Brampton.....Grand Scribe N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp. W. Roaf.....Toronto
" " D. F. MacWatt.....Sarnia
" " W. T. Toner.....Collingwood
" " W. Birrell.....Hamilton
" " R. J. Craig.....Cobourg

APPOINTED BY GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp. John Leslie.....Winnipeg
" " William Walker.....Toronto
" " Jonathan Greene.....Brockville
" " J. Earl Halliwell.....Stirling
E. " George Moore.....Hamilton

SUB-COMMITTEES.

GRAND Z'S ADDRESS.

M. E. Comps. J. J. Mason, Chairman; J. Ross Robertson, J. E. Harding, R. Hendry, Jr., R. B. Hungerford, Kivas Tully, Donald Ross, H. Robertson, M. Walsh, W. G. Reid.

BENEVOLENCE.

M. E. Comps. J. E. Harding, Chairman; R. B. Hungerford, R. E. Comp. J. S. Dewar.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

R. E. Comps. William Walker, Chairman; W. C. Coulson, R. Pollock, W. J. Sutherland, J. C. Rothery, R. H. Knight, N. Gatewood.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

R. E. Comps. D. F. MacWatt, Chairman; D. H. Martyn, J. Earl Halliwell, W. H. McFadden, W. F. Cooper, N. J. Fraid, Henry Pringle.

WARRANTS.

R. E. Comps. W. Birrell, Chairman; A. W. R. Markley, J. McLaren, Jas. Hamilton, Geo. J. Mason, A. G. Henderson, J. W. Hodgins, J. M. Suttie.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

R. E. Comps. W. Roaf, Chairman; Hugh Murray, W. T. Toner, John Leslie, R. J. Craig, Jonathan Greene, Ex. Comp. Geo. Moore.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

R. E. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett.

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 1.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. Coulson, Leamington.

No. 47,	Wellington.....Chatham	No. 80,	Ark..... ....Windsor
" 71,	Pr. of Wales..Amherstb'g	" 88,	Macnabb.....Dresden
" 73,	Erie .....Ridgetown	" 119,	King Cyrus..Leamington

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 2.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. F. Cooper, Petrolia.

No. 3,	St. John's.....London	No. 54,	Palestine.....St. Thomas
" 5,	St. George's.....London	" 87,	Minewawa.....Parkhill
" 15,	Wawanosh .....Sarnia	" 81,	Aylmer.. .....Aylmer
" 53.	Bruce .....Petrolia		

WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 3.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. James Hamilton, Woodstock.

No. 18,	Oxford ... .Woodstock	No. 41,	Harris .....Ingersoll
" 20,	Mount Horeb...Brantford	" 115,	Brant.....Paris
" 23,	Ezra .....Simcoe		

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 4.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. John McLaren, Orangeville.

No. 32,	Waterloo.....Galt	No. 67,	Enterprise....Harriston
" 38,	Seymour.....Shelburne	" 83,	Ionic .....Orangeville
" 40,	Guelph .....Guelph	" 117,	Berlin .....Berlin

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. H. Spears, Oakville.

No. 2,	The Hiram.....Hamilton	No. 75,	St. Clair .....Milton
" 6,	St. John's.....Hamilton	" 104,	White Oak.....Oakville

HURON DISTRICT, NO. 6.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. W. Hodgins, Seaforth.

No. 24,	Tecumseh .....Stratford	No. 63,	Havelock....Kincardine
" 30,	Huron.....Goderich	" 66,	The Malloch....Seaforth
" 46,	St. James.....St. Marys	" 84,	Lebanon.....Wingham
" 50,	Saugeen .....Mitchell		

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 7.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. C. Rothery, Niagara Falls.

No. 19,	Mt. Moriah....St. Cath's	No. 64,	Willson .....Welland
" 29,	McCallum .....Dunnville	" 69,	Grimsby .....Grimsby
" 55,	Niagara ..... .Niagara	" 76,	Mt. Nebo, Niagara Fs. S.
" 57,	King Hiram.Pt. Colborne		

TORONTO DISTRICT, NO. 8.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. George J. Mason, Toronto.

No. 4,	S. And. & S. John, Toronto	No. 65,	St. Paul's.....Toronto
" 8,	King Solomon's Toronto	" 77,	Occident..... "
" 60,	Doric.....Newmarket	" 79,	Orient..... "
" 62,	York..... ..Eglinton	" 91,	Antiquity..... "

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. W. J. Sutherland, Barrie.

No. 27,	Manitou.....Collingwood	No. 70,	Grand River.Bracebridge
" 34,	Signet.....Barrie	" 86,	Macpherson....Meaford
" 56,	Georgian . .-Owen Sound	" 103,	St. John's....North Bay

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 10.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp A. G. Henderson, Whitby.

No. 28,	Pentalpha .. ....Oshawa	No. 45,	Excelsior.....Colborne
" 35,	Keystone.....Whitby	" 48,	St. John's.....Cobourg
" 36,	Corinthian ....Peterboro'	" 94,	Midland. ... .Lindsay
" 37,	Victoria .....Port Hope	" 110,	Warkworth .Warkworth

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 11.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Henry Pringle, Belleville.

No. 7,	Moira .....Belleville	No. 44,	Mount Sinai....Napanee
" 26,	St. Mark's ..... Trenton	" 72,	Keystone.....Stirling
" 31,	Prince Edward....Picton		

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, NO. 12.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. N. J. Fraid, Cornwall.

No. 1,	Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui ..Kingston	No. 68,	Maitland ...N. Augusta
		" 100,	St. Lawrence..Brockville
" 22,	Grenville.....Prescott	" 112,	St. John's...Morrisburg
" 59,	Sussex .....Brockville	" 113,	Covenant.....Cornwall

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 13.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Robert Pollock, Almonte.

No. 16,	Carleton .....Ottawa	No. 114,	Bonnechere ....Renfrew
" 58,	Pembroke .....Mattawa	" 116,	Maple. ..Carleton Place
" 61,	Granite.....Almonte		

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 14.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. R. H. Knight, Sault Ste. Marie.

No. 82,	Shuniah .....Port Arthur	No. 102,	Algonquin....Sault Ste. Marie.
" 90,	Golden.....Rat Portage		
" 95,	Tuscan .....Sudbury		

MANITOBA DISTRICT, NO. 15.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. M. Suttie, Winnipeg.

No. 52, Pr. Rupert ....Winnipeg	No. 111, Zeredatha.....Morden
" 101, Corinthian....Boissevain	

BRITISH COLUMBIA DISTICT, NO. 16.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. N. Gatewood, Vancouver.

No 98, Vancouver....Vancouver	No. 124, Westminster..... New Westminster.
" 120, Kootenay .....Kaslo	" 125, Rocky Mtn..Fort Steele
" 122, Rossland.....Rossland	" 127, Keystone.....Nanaimo
" 123, Nelson.....Nelson	U. D. Revelstoke..Revelstoke

ALBERTA DISTRICT, NO. 17.

Grand Superintendent—R. E. Comp. A. W. R. Markley, Calgary.

No. 156, Alberta.....Calgary	No. 121, Wascana .....Regina
" 118, North Star .Edmonton	" 126, Assiniboia.Medicine Hat

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES AND GRAND SECRETARIES.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.					GRAND SECRETARIES.	
At Grand Chapter of Canada.		*Jurisdiction.*	*From Grand Chapter of Canada.*		*Name*	*Address.*
R. E.	Comp. W. B. McArthur.....Ottawa	Alabama.....	E.	Comp. Jos. H. Johnson.....Talladega	H. C. Armstrong..	Montgomery
"	" C. A Humber.... .Goderich	Arizona.....	R. E.	" John M. Ormsby.....Tucson	Geo J. Roskruge.....	Tucson
"	" John McLaren....Orangeville	Arkansas	E.	" S. A Pernot... ... Van Buren	John C. Bone.....	Batesville
"	" Samuel Wesley.....Barrie	California.....	M. E.	" N. W. Spaulding.....Oakland	Wm. A Davies...	San Francisco
"	" A. McGinnis.....Belleville	Colorado.....	E.	" Lawr'nce N Greenleaf, Denver	Ed. C. Parmelee	....Denver
"	" A. Shaw .....Kingston	Connecticut	E.	" W. R. Higby.....Bridgeport	J. McCormick.....	Hartford
"	" T. C. MacNabb.....Chatham	Delaware.....	E	" George F. Young Wilmington	James H. Price.....	Wilmington
"	" Hugh Murray.....Hamilton	District of Columbia...	M. E.	" P McCoy, M.D.. Washington	A. W. Johnston.....	Washington
"	" A. B. Munson.....London	Florida.....	"	" Robert J. Perry.....Key West	W. P. Webster.....	Jacksonville
M. E.	" R. B. Hungerford.....London	Georgia.....	"	" W A. Graham....Fort Gaines	W. A. Wolihin.....	Macon
R. E.	" Wm. Forbes.....Grimsby	Illinois.....	"	" C. H. Patton.....Mt. Vernon	Gil. W. Barnard.....	Chicago
"	" George Waugh... ..Stratford	Indiana.....	E.	" Thos. R. Marshall. Colb'a City	Calvin W. Prather..	Indianapolis
"	" D H. Martyn.....Kincardine	Indian Territory		" John Rennie..... Lehigh	Joseph S. Murrow.....	Atoka
"	" C. W. Postlethwaite .Toronto	Iowa	E.	" J. M. Murray.....Ottumwa	Alf Wingate.....	DesMoines
		Ireland	E.	" J. H. Neilson.....Dublin	Henry E. Flavelle.....	Dublin
"	" J. M. Gibson .....Hamilton	Kansas.....	M. E.	" Jacob DeWitt.....Salina	W M. Shaver	Topeka
"	" Wm. Waker.....Toronto	Kentucky.....	"	" H. R French.....Mt. Sterling	Henry B Grant	Louisville
"	" John Creasor....Owen Sound	Louisiana.....	R. E.	" And. Hero, jr....New Orleans	Richard Lambert..	New Orleans
"	" B. Allen.....Toronto	Maine	"	" Winfield S. Hinckley..Lisbon	Stephen Berry.....	Portland
"	" R. G. W. Conolly.. Dunnville	Maryland	E	" J. M. Carter.....Baltimore	Geo. L. McCahan.....	Baltimore
M. E.	" John E. Harding.....Lindsay	Massachusetts....	R. E.	" Rich'd A. Atwood.....Boston	J. Gilman Waite.....	Boston
		Michigan.....			Jefferson S. Conover..	Coldwater
R. E.	" Wm, Downie.....Vancouver	Minnesota	"	" And'w P. Swanstrom..St. Paul	Thos Montgomery.....	St Paul
"	" J. A. Morton.....Wingham	Mississippi.....	"	" P. W. Rowland.... Coffeeville	J. L. Power.....	Jackson
"	" Wm. Gibson.....Beamsville	Missouri	"	" Erwin Ellis.....St. Louis	W. H. Mayo.....	St. Louis
		Montana.			Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena
M. E.	" J. Ross Robertson...Toronto	Nebraska.....	"	" W. T. Whitmarsh.....Omaha	Francis E. White.....	Omaha
"	" J. J. Mason.... .....Hamilton	Nevada.....	"	" Frank Bell.....Reno	C. N. Noteware.....	Carson City
R. E.	" James Sutherland. Woodstock	New Brunswick.....	"	" R. Marshall.... St John, N.B.	W. B. Wallace	St. John
"	" John S. Dewar.....London	New Hampshire.....	"	" Alpheus W. Baker...Lebanon	Frank D Woodbury....	Concord

R. E	"	J. McLean Stevenson..Barrie	New Jersey.....	R. E	Comp.	W. H. McIlhaney...New York	Geo. B. Edwards ....Jersey City
M. E.	"	Hy. Robertson..Collingwood	New York	"	"	W. G. Thirkell... . New York	Christopher G. Fox.....Buffalo
R. E.	"	James Wilson.....Toronto	North Carolina.....	E.	"	Chas C. Clarke... New Berne	Jas. C. Munds.....Wilmington
"	"	Wm G. Bell .....Winnipeg	North Dakota.....	M E.	"	Geo. H. Keyes .....Ellandale	F. J. Thompson .....Fargo
"	"	J. Moodie.....Hamilton	Nova Scotia.....	E.	"	Neil McKelvie...Summerside	D. H. Campbell.....Halifax
V. E.	"	Hugh A. Mackay..... Berlin	Ohio.....	R E:	"	C. A Woodward....Cleveland	Edwin Hagenbuch.....Urbana
R. E	"	I. Baker..... .....Toronto	Oregon.....	E.	"	Donald McKay .....Portland	James F. Robinson.....Eugene
"	"	Donald McPhie.....Hamilton	Pennsylvania.....	R. E.	"	Thos. R. Patton. Philadelphia	Charles Carey.....Philadelphia
"	"	D. F. MacWatt .....Sarnia	Quebec.....	M. E	"	Will H. Whyte.....Montreal	Will H. Whyte.....Montreal
M. E.	"	M. Walsh .....Ingersoll	Rhode Island.....	R. E.	"	W R. Greene.....Providence	W. R. Greene.....Providence
R. E.	"	J. K. Kerr .....Toronto	Scotland.....	"	"	Earl of Kintore.London, Eng.	Robert S. Brown.....Edinburgh
"	"	G. V. T. Greenhill....Windsor	South Carolina.....	E.	"	John R. Bellinger...Bamberg	J. T. Barron..... Columbia
"	"	A E. Cooper.....London	South Dakota.....			Robt T. Sedman St.Lawrence	Geo. A. Pettigrew....Flandreau
"	"	H. H. Watson .....Vancouver	Tennessee.....			Jos. H. Bullock..... Paris	W. A. Clendenning....Nashville
"	"	E. T. Malone.....Toronto	Texas.....	E.	"	George Lopaz .....Texas	Geo. Lopaz, jr.....Houston
"	"	J. B. Nixon .....Toronto	Vermont.....	E.	"	C. W. Whitcomb .Proctorville	Warren J. Reynolds.Burlington
M. E.	"	W. G. Reid.....Hamilton	Victoria.....	R. E.	"	J. D'Amer Drew...Melbourne	John Braim..... Melbourne
R. E.	"	Alex. Patterson.....Toronto	Virginia	M: E:	"	Rev. G. H. Ray... Lynchburg	James B. Blanks ...Petersburg
			Washington				Yancey C Blalock..Walla Walla
"	"	David Taylor.....Ottawa	West Virginia.....	R: E.	"	John A. Zorn.....Wheeling	Robt. C. Dunnington..Fairmont
"	"	Gavin Stewart.....Woodstock	Wisconsin	M. E:	"	A. J. Wallace.....Durant	William W. Perry... Milwaukee

CHAIRMEN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Jurisdiction.	*Name*	*Address.*	*Jurisdiction.*	*Name.*	*Address.*
Alabama	William Y. Titcomb	Anniston	Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena
Arizona	Charles D Belden	Phœnix	Nebraska	Chas. J. Phelps	Schuyler
Arkansas	Reuben J. Laughlin	Bentonville	Nevada	Albert D. Bird	Reno
California	William A Davies	San Francisco	New Brunswick		
Canada	Ge . J. Bennett	Toronto	New Hampshire	Albert S. Wait	Newport
Colorado	Ernest L. N. Fofter	Denver	New Jersey	Chas. Belcher	Newark
Connecticut	John H Barlow	Birmingham	New South Wales		
Deleware	Virginius V Harri on	Wilmington	New York	George J Gardner	Syracuse
District of Columbia	William R. Singleton	Washington	North Carolina	James Southgate	Durham
England			North Dakota		
Florida	Wilber P. Webster	Jacksonville	Nova Scotia		
Georgia	A M. Lambdin	Barnesville	Ohio	S. Stacker Williams	Newark
Illinois	John M. Pearson	Godfrey	Oregon	John M. Hodson	Portland
Indiana			Pennsylvania	Matthias H Henderson	Philadelphia
Indian Territory	Joseph S Murrow	Atoka	Quebec	E. T. D Chambers	Quebec
Iowa	Thomas R Ercanbrack	Anamosa	Rhode Island	Henry W. Rugg	Providence
Ireland			Scotland		
Kansas	W. M. Shaver	Topeka	South Carolina	J. T Barron	Columbia
Kentucky	James W. Staton	Brooksville	South Dakota	Louis J. Levoy	Webster
Louisiana	Herman C. Duncan	Alexandria	Tennessee	Henry H. Ingersoll	Knoxville
Maine	Josiah H. Drummond	Portland	Texas	John L. Terrell	Terrell
Maryland	Edward T. Schultz	Baltimore	Vermont	Marsh O. Perkins	Windsor
Massachusetts	J. Gilman Waite	Boston	Victoria		
Michigan	Jefferson S. Conover	Coldwater	Virginia	Chas A. Nesbitt	Richmond
Minnesota	Thomas Montgomery	St. Paul	Washington	Yancey C. Blalock	Walla Walla
Mississippi	Phineas M. Savery	Tupelo	West Virginia	Robert C. Dunnington	Fairmont
Missouri	William H. Mayo	St. Louis	Wisconsin	William C. Swain	Milwaukee

INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS, 1901.

	PAGES
Annual Convocation, where held	3
" Report, Grand Scribe E	88 to 92
" " " Treasurer	92 to 94
Address of Grand Z., Annual Convocation	11
" to His Majesty, the King	96
Appointments of Grand Officers	115
Credentials, Annual Convocation, Report of Committee on	9
Chapters Represented	4 to 9
Charter Members, New Chapters	89
Chairmen of Foreign Correspondence	136
Communications	95
District Superintendents	113
" " Reports of	24 to 87
Deaths	124
Election of Officers	113
Executive Committee, Elected Members	114
" " Appointed Members	115
" " Benevolence	112
Expressions of Sympathy	95
Foreign Correspondence, Appendix	iii
Grand Chapter Opened	4
" " " —Grand Officers Present	3
" " " Representatives Present	4
" " " Closed	116
" " " Grand Supts. of Districts Present	3
" " " Grand Officers, List of	128
In Memoriam	123
Installation of Officers	115
List of Grand Representatives	134
" Executive Committee and Sub-Committees	129 to 130
" Chapters by Districts	131 to 133
Motion re Re-nomination of Grand Principals—Lost	111
" Minimum Fee—Lost	112

	PAGES
Next Place of Meeting	114
New Chapters	89
Notice of Motion	114
Report of Grand Treasurer	92
Report of Executive Committee on	
Audit and Finance	97
Benevolence	110
Condition of Capitular Masonry	103
Grand Z.'s Address	100
Grievances and Appeals	99
Warrants	96
Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence	96
" " " M.E.M. Degree	111
Resolutions to Receive and Adopt the Report of Executive Committee on	
Audit and Finance	99
Benevolence	110
Condition of Capitular Masonry	110
Grand Z.'s Address	103
Grievances and Appeals	100
Warrants	97
To confirm Minutes of Annual Convocation, 1900	10
Resolution re Grand Treasurer	111
" " Chapter Proxies	112
The Annual Statements of Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to Executive Committee	94
Returns of Subordinate Chapters	118 to 120
Restorations	122
Suspensions and Expulsion	121-122
Testimonial to Past Grand Z.	114
Vote of Thanks	115

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

COMPANIONS :—

After a careful review of the printed Proceedings of sister Grand Chapters received to date, your Committee is constrained to believe that the year has shown a decided advance. Not only have the ranks of the Royal Craft been swelled by numerous accessions, but the advance in sentiment and the desire for perfection in the knowledge acquired are so apparent, that much of the material with which the Correspondent was wont to fashion into subject for discussion is not to be found. This is notably prominent in the falling away of applications for decisions from the Chief Ruler, and leads one to reflect that the condition of affairs in the past must have been to some extent slightly mixed. It recalls the story of the schoolboy who was asked at an examination to give an account of the patriarch Abraham. He wrote: "He was the father of Lot, and had two wives. One was called Ishmale and the other Hagar. He kept one at home, and he turned the other into the desert, where she became a pillar of salt in the daytime and a pillar of fire by night."

If the absence of appeals for rulings is to be accepted as an indication of advancement in knowledge, then the closing period of the century may be regarded as the beginning of an era of enlightenment which prefigures a glorious future for the Royal Arch throughout the continent.

This report fails to include some of the Grand Chapters which have hitherto been regular with their proceedings. That, however, is not the fault of your Committee, and the report, imperfect though it be, is herewith submitted for your perusal.

Alabama.

Chapters .. 30 Members .. 874

Grand Secretary Armstrong in his report to the Seventy-third Annual Convocation held at Montgomery on December 4, 1899, reported that eight Chapters were lost from the roll by reason of the neglect and indifference of those to whom the respective Charters were intrusted: These Chapters carried a total membership of 149—a serious inroad indeed!

Two dormant Chapters in other sections were however revived successfully by him, and one new Chapter was organized at Bessemer.

"While we have lost 149 we have gained 11 members during the year, who, may we not hope, will prove more faithful to the Royal Craft than the 149 who 'have fallen by the wayside.'"

Grand High Priest E. S. Gatchell presided over the deliberations of Grand Chapter, and referring to the above said:

"You owe a solemn duty to Capitular Masonry, with which nothing should be permitted to interfere.

"Consider carefully every interest of the Order, and let each one bear his part of the responsibility. Do not leave others to do the work and then offer criticism in regard to the legislation enacted.

"Very grave and serious questions are presented for your consideration.

"In some portions of the State Capitular Masonry is flourishing, while in others it is lying dormant, and in others still it is retrograding. It will be your duty to inquire diligently into the cause of the decline, and devise some means to instil new life and energy."

He paid touching tribute to the noble qualities exhibited in life by two Companions who in the interval had been called to the celestial Sanhedrim, viz., Grand Chaplain Rev. W. C. Cleveland and Past Grand High Priest William Storey Foster.

Three dispensations were granted to bridge the limit in the matter of conferring degrees, and he admitted three personal visitations.

Like many other Grand Chapters Alabama i making a supreme effort to systematize the recording of Marks, and a recommendation of the Grand Secretary was subsequently crystallized into a resolution to the

effect that the R. A. degree be not conferred upon a candidate until the Chapter secretary had reported that the Mark had been selected and duly recorded.

Companion William Y. Titcomb has assumed the quill which for so many years in the gifted hand of the lamented Pillans was the medium of instruction and entertainment for the benefit of the Companions of Alabama. Thus he introduces himself:

"Having had assigned to it the task of continuing work, so long and with such signal ability performed by Past Grand Master Pillans, this Committee assumes the responsibility with much diffidence, being fully sensible of the difficulty of bringing up work fit for inspection, since the overseers have been accustomed to examination of such splendid results as were always achieved by him who has laid down his pen forever."

He prepares for eventualities, too, although he leaves little room for criticism:

"It will not be improper to give assurance, at the outset, that this Committee does not deprecate criticism: surely, by means of that, whether impelled by kindly or censorious motives, are we enabled to correct past errors, and to avoid like faults in the future. So, Companions, 'have at' us whensoever we lay ourselves open to attack, not doubting that all strictures will be received as meekly as any luckless urchin ever took a whipping at school."

His review of Canada for 1899 is as generous as those given to closer neighbors, and to ourselves he is flattering.:

"This report is from the vigorous and versatile pen of Companion George J. Bennett.

"The reviewer will please accept our thanks for his courteous notice of Alabama for 1897. Our readers would see much to interest them could we make liberal extracts from this very readable document. It is always piquant and entertaining; withal the Companion does not fear to call a spade a spade. Nevertheless, let us all remember that sweetness catches more flies than acidity does."

True, but we are not in the fly-catching industry, and if we were, it would be difficult to discover any on Alabama's latest contribution to the Guild. Remember, too,—

"Variety alone gives joy;
The sweetest meats the soonest cloy."

We gladly welcome Companion Titcomb and trust

he may be spared many years, a worthy successor to him whose loss all deplore.

Edward S. Gatchell, Selma, Grand High Priest.

H. Clay Armstrong, Montgomery, Grand Secretary.

Arizona.

Chapters .. 6 Members .. 301

A gain of 38 was cheerfully reported to the Companions, in Tenth Annual Convocation at Tucson, on November 15, 1899, and Grand High Priest Monihon was not slow to congratulate the Grand Chapter thereon.

"The Royal Craft membership in Arizona has increased nicely during the past year, and is in a flourishing condition. There have been 41 exalted, and one new Chapter created. A lively interest is shown throughout."

He also expressed satisfaction that during the year death had passed by Arizona's Grand Chapter.

Earnestly he urged a system by which the funds of the several Chapters should be protected, and closing, had a word of satisfaction for their meeting place:

"I am glad, indeed, that it is our privilege to convene in this honored and historic city. Grand old Tucson! What memories and associations it recalls."

Grand indeed. The indefatigable Grand Secretary presented a comprehensive report, in which the condition of Grand Chapter is faithfully set forth. The Grand Treasurer announced a cash balance of $1,183.50.

Seventeen newly-appointed Grand Representatives made their bow and were received with usual ceremony.

It was resolved, that Grand Chapter prepare suitable jewels for its Past Grand High Priests, in good standing, who have gained such title by actual service in this jurisdiction, the cost not to exceed $25, provided that no member shall receive more than one such jewel.

Frederick G. Brecht, Prescott, Grand High Priest.

Geo. J. Roskruge, Tucson, Grand Secretary.

Arkansas.

Chapters .. 55 Members .. 895

The Grand Chapter completed its half century of existence in the Masonic Temple, at the city of Little Rock, on November 22, 1899.

Three of its veterans did not live to see the fiftieth Convocation. Grand Secretary Jas. A. Henry was called away in the previous April, the result of an accident. Past Grand High Priest J. J. Sumpter, of Hot Springs, and Past Grand High Priest Jas. H. Van Hoose, of Fayetteville.

The circulars issued by Grand High Priest Kennedy spoke highly of the character and devotion of these lamented Companions, and their loss is keenly felt.

Past Grand High Priest John C. Bone was appointed to the position made vacant by Grand Secretary Henry's death. Referring to the latter, the Grand High Priest said :

"His character was without blemish. Genial and earnest in manner, courteous and exceedingly kind in his intercourse with all.

"He loved the Institution of Masonry devotedly, and constantly practised its teachings. Although 82 years of age, he was still very active, both in mind and body, and was in active service as Captain of the Host in Union Chapter No. 2, Royal Arch Masons, at the time of his accidental death."

The Grand High Priest related that he had been applied to for the restoration of the charter of Hill Chapter, defunct for some time, and unaware that the law forbade such action, acceded to their request and set them going.

The Committee on Charters subsequently recommended the arrest of the charter, and this was agreed to.

The G. H. P. is apparently not in favour of multiplying Chapters :

"I am glad to report that I have not been called upon for a dispensation for a new Chapter, for I think we already have sufficient Chapters till our membership increases considerably."

Oil Trough and Danelly Chapters applied to be

amalgamated under the name of the latter. The request was granted, and—exit Oil Trough.

He was asked :

"Can a Companion who is engaged in the saloon business be legally installed into office in a Chapter ?

"Answer. Yes ; I know no law to the contrary. If he is a member in good standing he is eligible to any office in the Chapter, and can, and ought to be, legally installed if elected."

The Committee on Jurisprudence agreed, "but in view of the law of the Grand Lodge and to put Grand Chapter in a proper light before the Craft," recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

"*Resolved*,—That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be eligible to hold an office in a subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction."

Grand Chapter acquiesced, and later, a Companion offered a resolution :

"To prohibit the conferring the Chapter degrees on anyone who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors ; and to require members who are now engaged in such traffic to discontinue the same."

This was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, which recommended its adoption, with amendments, as follows :

"That hereafter no person who is engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors shall become a member of any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter ; and all members who are now engaged in such business shall be given until January 1, 1901, in which to disengage themselves therefrom, under penalty of being charged with unmasonic conduct.

"It shall be the duty of each subordinate Chapter to faithfully execute the above Edict ; and the Grand High Priest shall ascertain of the Chapters if it has been enforced and report all delinquent Chapters to the Grand Chapter.

"The secretary of each subordinate Chapter shall notify every one so engaged who lives in the jurisdiction of his Chapter of the existence of this law."

On motion the report and the resolution as amended were adopted.

The Grievances Committee reported peace and harmony.

Comp. Laughlin's report on Correspondence was,

for some unexplained reason, limited to four little paragraphs. At such an important epoch in the history of Arkansas' Grand Chapter, the omission of its gifted reviewer's usual report comes as a distinct disappointment.

J. S. Westerfield, Conway, Grand High Priest.

John C. Bone, Batesville, Grand Secretary.

California.

Chapters .. 69 Members .. 5,835

Sixty-one Chapters were represented at the Forty-sixth Annual, held in San Francisco, on the 17th April, 1900, and no less than thirteen past rulers of Grand Chapter supported the M. E. Florin Leslie Jones, G. H. P., who presided over this most harmonious Convocation.

His address was comprehensive, if brief, and indicated a devotion to duty worthy of emulation. His visitations were numerous and he testified to the good work exhibited everywhere. That the lessons of the Royal Craft do not pall, when properly exemplified, is forcibly displayed in his remarks:

"I have been particularly impressed with the large number of gray-headed Companions (some quite decrepit) in attendance at those meetings. Their counsel and experience is invaluable to their Chapters."

Fraternal reference is made to the departure for Washington of that skilled Craftsman, M. E. Comp. Thos. H. Caswell, who for thirty-three years served Grand Chapter as Grand Lecturer. His elevation to the chief office in the A. and A. Scottish Rite necessitated a resignation that must be felt as a distinct loss to California.

He authorized the formation of a new Chapter at Vacaville.

Grand Secretary Davies reported a net increase in the membership of 263.

A Companion wrote, asking a ruling upon the following:

"Has the High Priest of a Chapter the right to discard the robes in conferring the Royal Arch Degree and order his officers to appear and work in dress suits, with white chokers, etc.?"

To which the Jurisprudence Committee replied:

"In answer to the question asked by Comp. Thomas Kyle, calling for a decision of Grand Chapter as to the right of a High Priest to discard the robes when conferring the Royal Arch Degree, we say emphatically, No. We refer to the installation ritual, to the oath of office, to the lectures and charges, to the offices of a Chapter, and the established Landmarks, which, from time immemorial, have provided what the garments of the High Priest and officers of a Chapter should be, and which no High Priest can disregard."

The per capita tax was raised from twenty-five cents to fifty cents.

Comp. Davies, for the Committee on Correspondence, reviews the Capitular world, including Canada, for 1899 and 1900. Referring to M. E. Comp. Walsh's recommendation to restore the minimum fee, he says:

"Which opinion, we think, would be 'concurred in' by nine-tenths of the thoughtful Masons of any jurisdiction, and especially those who have had practical experience in any radical reduction of the minimum."

Comp. Davies is troubled about that initial "M." before Comp. Walsh's name:

"Comp Grand Scribe E. don't tell us whether Companion Walsh was ever christened, so we are left to guess whether we should address the Most Excellent companion as Martin, Milo, Malachi, Mathias, Michael, Moses, Morgan, or Milton, any one of which good, honest names would be an improvement on being served up as M.·. E.·. Comp. M. Walsh, P. G. Z., for it's impossible to interpret the lone initial 'M.' It may represent Max, or, perhaps, McKinley. There's nothing like giving full Christian name or names, Comp. Bennett."

It is presumed that ere this Comp. Davies has had a load of anxiety removed by perusing our explanation of this momentous question, addressed to Comp. Drummond, of Maine. We there hinted that the Companion himself preferred it so, and it was not our province to spell out the patronymic when the signature contained but the initial. Remember Sam Weller's sapient remark to the judge: "All depends on the taste and fancy of the speller, m' lud."

He is disposed to encourage the reviewer, and speaks kindly of our effort, for which we are grateful.

"We have enjoyed this live, 'up-to-date' report of Comp. Bennett. May he live long to write for the instruction, information and pleasure of the Companions of Canada."

Edward Richards Hedges, Stockton, Grand High Priest.

William A. Davies, San Francisco, Grand Secretary.

Colorado.

Chapters .. 33 Members .. 2,574

Grand High Priest Jethro C. Sanford welcomed the delegates to the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, which completed its quarter of a century of existence, at Denver, on Sept. 21st, 1899.

Business prevented the G. H. P. from doing as much for Capitular Masonry as he had anticipated.

"Hence it is that my official acts have been few and far between; so much so that I have hardly realized that I have held the high and distinguished position of Grand High Priest for the past year."

Nevertheless, he was not indifferent by any means.

"Acting upon the suggestions made by my predecessor last year, I entered into active correspondence with those Chapters which might need some assistance, and, if possible, to devise ways and means whereby a renewed interest could be manifested. I am pleased to report that in a number of cases my endeavors, together with the assistance rendered by the companions directly interested, were crowned with success."

"From every grand jurisdiction in the land, Colorado not excepted, the wail goes up that the Chapter is being made the stepping-stone to a something beyond. Believing as I do that Masonry is a progressive science and that we should become familiar with its teachings before receiving further light, I was compelled to refuse on several occasions requests for dispensations to confer the degrees without waiting the required time, and also the issuing of a general dispensation to our Chapters for the same purposes as suggested by one of the promoters of the Royal and Select Masters' celebration in August last.

"Colorado companions are noted for their large bump of hospitality and of their readiness to assist any good cause, and I am informed that the occasion mentioned was no exception to the rule, yet the part assigned me toward that end was one which I could not consistently perform."

A little of the same elsewhere would do incalculable benefit. The G. H. P. is to be commended for his firmness in this respect.

The per capita was fixed at sixty cents, and an amendment to reduce the minimum fee from $50 to $25 was rejected. The net gain for the year was 50.

The Grievances and Appeals Committee reported everything harmonious.

Under Canada for 1899, Comp. Foster, who ably reviews the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, says :

"Among the disbursements it is with considerable pleasure we notice the charitable use of funds ; everything is not eaten up by salaries, mileage and per diem, fine jewels and other expenses, as is so often the case in jurisdictions on this side of the line. There was a grant of $1,000 for the hospital for sick children and $410 for benevolence."

Marshall H. Dean, Glenwood Springs, Grand High Priest.

Ed. C. Parmalee, Denver, Grand Secretary.

Connecticut.

Chapters .. 39 Members .. 6,027

All the Chapters were represented at the One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation, held at Hartford, on the 8th May, 1900.

The Grand Secretary's statistics report a gain of 244, although the figures do not seem to fit that way. The increases from exaltations, affiliations and reinstatements total 309 ; while the losses from resignations, suspensions and deaths are 244.

M. E. Comp. Wesley U. Pearne, Grand High Priest, from his very thoughtful address, would appear to have lived up to the requirements of his high office.

He deplored the deaths of two Past Grand High Priests, who were ornaments to the fraternity, viz., M. E. Comps. Dwight Phelps and James Henry Welsh.

Before starting out on his visitations, he discussed the ritual with the Grand Council.

"It is now more than thirty-three years since the adoption of the present ritual, and it is quite possible that errors and innovations have crept in. There is no permanent standard to which we can go in matters of doubt, and the only resort is to the memory of the oldest among us for rectifying discrepancies. I found several points of difference."

He probably did, and might have discovered more, had he travelled farther. Our own experience of the mouth to ear method of acquiring the ritual convinced us that it was an open door to many irregularities.

Noting the apathy in some of the Chapters, he says:

"I am aware that attendance upon a multiplicity of Masonic bodies requires more time than many men can afford; at the same time it is noteworthy that the men who are active in one body are the ones who are to be depended upon in the others. I am aware also of the fact that in many cases the Chapter is used as a stepping-stone to something else. There can be no such thing as compulsory attendance. It seems to me that the remedy must be in the Chapters themselves"

Referring to the large number of non-affiliates, he pauses to remark:

"But there would be fewer non-affiliates, if the way to membership were easier. I would not advocate any deviation from the unanimous ballot in the case of a candidate. Many men never seem to appreciate the proper use of the black-ball; they assume it to be—and so use it—as a private instrument to satisfy private revenge, instead of an instrument to preserve and protect the institution. And yet with all the safeguards unworthy men get into all the Masonic bodies. But with the non-affiliate the case is different. He is not seeking after knowledge; he already has all that you can give him save membership. I believe therefore that for these the way to membership should be made easy: that instead of the unanimous ballot he should be required to secure say a two-thirds vote."

And why not add, without a fee also? The reports of the other Grand officers showed that the work of visitation was well looked after. The business before Grand Chapter was mainly routine.

Comp. John H. Barlow, of the Committee on Correspondence, presented a very enjoyable and instructive report. He briefly reviews Canada for 1899, and of the reviewer says:

"We find no occasion for comment or criticism in this excellent report, and we pass it as good work."

The new Grand Chapter of New Mexico, constituted at Albuquerque, Oct. 3, 1898, under the authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, was duly recognized and taken into the family.

John L. Hill, Norwich, Grand High Priest.
Jas. McCormick, Hartford, Grand Secretary.

Delaware.

Chapters .. 4 Members .. 704

M. E. Comp. Harry Galbraith's expressive countenance, beaming all the dignity of a Grand High Priest, is presented in a photo-engraving with the volume recording the proceedings of the Thirty-first Annual Convocation, held at Wilmington, on the 17th January, 1900.

The Grand High Priest announced a net increase of 39.

"Capitular Masonry may afford but little opportunity for show and display, yet in no branch of our order are there more practical and instructive lessons taught. It has its mission and place in every-day life, and nothing can prevent it increasing in popularity, year by year, except perhaps our own indifference.

"The question naturally arises: Are we ourselves to blame for a certain amount of apathy that may exist? Do we turn the search-light of desire into every nook and corner of our brains to make the Royal Craftsman interested and ambitious in his Chapter? Do we take every legitimate means to improve our position? Do we take the trouble to inform the worthy Craftsman that having had the third degree conferred upon him does not complete his Masonic education?

"Do we, as Most Excellent Masters, dispense light and knowledge to all uninformed brethren? I am afraid we cannot accuse ourselves of being over-zealous, in our eagerness, to do all that might reasonably be expected from us, or as the grand object really deserves."

He devotes much space to a description of his visit to the centennial celebration at Boston, and notes particularly:

. "The golden urn, inclosing a lock of the hair of Brother George Washington, was prominent among the valuables entrusted to the care of the Grand Master elect, R. W. Charles Theodore Gallagher. This relic, he was informed, was presented to the Grand Lodge by Grand Master Dunn, in 1801, at his installation, and that at every succeeding installation it had been confided to the care and custody of the Grand Master, with most solemn and imperative injunction, to carefully preserve it and transmit it to his successor with like charge."

There are but four Chapters in the jurisdiction, yet one of them was summoned to show cause why its charter should not be recalled, for failure to meet in at least four Convocations during the year. The High Priest of the Chapter appeared and asked for an extension of time, which was granted.

Comp. V. V. Harrison sent in as usual a sprightly report on Correspondence, in which however Canada fails to appear.

Under Maine, he has this to say, in reply to Comp. Drummond on the question of the admission of clergymen without fee, which he combatted :

"We hope to be pardoned if we are in error, but we seem to be living in a selfish age, in an age when the almighty dollar is the most potent factor, and all men, of whatever persuasion or occupation, seem to forget all else when an opportunity offers itself to add just one more dollar to the pile. This is but an opinion, all men err, and erring need repentance."

On the P. M. degree as a part of the Capitular system, he says to Comp. Hodson, of Oregon :

"Companion, we *don't stick to it* because we have said it only, but we do stick to it because we believe it does not of right belong to the Capitular system."

And gets this one in on Comp. Perkins, of Texas :

"The Companion says we 'innocently or otherwise' asked him to point out some of the various branches of Masonry to which a Canadian or English Companion can be admitted by administering the requisite O. B. Now, Companion, we did not do so 'innocently,' we were in 'dead earnest,' we appreciate the force of his answer, however, and would pass the matter by, but he goes further and asks us 'how about the Cryptic rite?' and a Companion hailing from a jurisdiction not recognizing the S. E. M. degree. We are more perplexed than ever, we do not have the Cryptic rite in Delaware and we have never been fortunate enough to have those degrees conferred upon us, therefore are not in a position to answer the question."

Harry Galbraith, Wilmington, Grand High Priest.
Jas. H. Price, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

District of Columbia.

Chapters .. 11 Members .. 2,320

The Thirty-second Annual Convocation was held at the Masonic Temple, Washington, on the 13th December, 1899, and this was preceded in March and May by specials, the first for an exemplification of the degrees, and the second to decorate with commemorative jewels, nineteen Past Grand High Priests.

"John Lockie, 1871 ; the senior in service and for many years our capable and patient instructor in the work, whose absence to-night we all regret.

Noble D. Larner, 1874 and 1875 ; a Nestor in council ; an Ajax when the fight is on.

Isaac L. Johnson, 1877 ; who has so often revealed to our minds the gladsome light of Masonic jurisprudence.

Joseph S. McCoy, 1878 ; pray come to our meetings and do not forget we reserve a seat for you in 'Old Lafayette.'

Matthew Trimble, 1879 and 1880 ; all assessments have been made which our present needs require.

Joseph H. Jochum, 1881 ; whose safe discretion never leads astray.

Jeremiah C. Allen, 1883 ; for whom a 'welcome ever smiles and farewell goes out sighing.'

Burton R. Ross, 1884 ; polished as steel and 'the very pink of courtesy.'

Jose M. Yznaga, 1885 ; whose ample learning and sound judgment have given us safe guidance.

George E. Corson, 1886 ; always a good and earnest worker, and therefore the fit chairman for our Committee on Work.

Edwin S. Holmes, 1890 ; his Chapter cried 'Eureka' when it found him.

Alexander McKenzie, 1891 ; always interested and interesting in 'Washington Naval' affairs.

Thomas F. Gibbs, 1892 ; whose words, though few, are 'like apples of gold in pictures of silver.'

Harrison Dingman, 1893 ; whom not to know argues yourselves unknown.

George H. Walker, 1894 ; who comes all the way from Mount Horeb to grace this occasion.

Frank L. Campbell, 1895 ; who makes things hump when he gets his back up.

Theodore G. DeMoll, 1896 ; whose administration won our hearts by its golden rule.

Charles H. Smith, 1897 ; whose recommendation was the initiative of which this occasion is the result.

James F. R. Appleby, 1898 ; my immediate predecessor, in whose footsteps, warm with devotion to our Royal Craft, I am proud to follow."

It was a most interesting occasion, and made more so by the eloquent introductory remarks of Comp. J. C. Chaney :

"This Grand Chapter dates from 1867. It was conceived amid the excitement of fraternal strife. It had its baptism in the fiercest fire. Prior to 1867 there are only fragments of the old Temple discovered to us by the worthies who kept alive the 'incense' both day and night. A few of those honored Companions and their successors have we gathered here to-night.

"Examples in Masonry are quite as instructive as the emblems which embellish the ritual. They are living pictures of the enduring lessons of Free Masonry. These men dug the foundations of our mystic temple broad and deep—down to the eternal rock—and the gates of hell may never prevail against it.

"The world has profited by Capitular Masonry. Its influence has always been on the right side of the civilization of which all progress is a part. It has helped maintain the everlasting principles of justice and truth. It has helped teach the world in liberty. It has ever stood for enlightenment and progress. It knows no imperial king or domineering priest. It recognizes no man as better than another, unless he better behaves himself. It recognizes the right of every one to breathe the uncontaminated atmosphere of heaven, and to drink the crystal waters of the earth, as an inalienable right born of the natural equality of mankind."

Each Past Grand High Priest present, as his name was called, was invested with a jewel of his rank by a member of the committee. The M. E. Companions then faced the west, when the grand honors were given, and the Companions of the Grand Chapter joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

It was resolved also to procure a suitable testimonial for R. E. Companion Charles W. Hancock, Past Grand King, in recognition of the distinguished services rendered by him in the organization of the Grand Chapter.

This duty was undertaken by a faithful committee, and at the Annual Convocation in December, Companion Hancock was the recipient of a massive silver water set, consisting of tankard, goblet and waiter, "as a slight recognition of the invaluable services rendered by him in those troublous times."

Grand High Priest Bond addressed Grand Chapter in congratulatory terms. The net gain in membership being 116, "and the largest number ever on the rolls."

Requests for dispensations were "surprisingly few," as were also applications for rulings.

That he was attentive to duty is demonstrated in the accompanying extract:

"During the year, as much for my own pleasure as what I regarded as a duty, I have visited, in an informal way, every Chapter in the jurisdiction, and have repeated my visit to the most of them several times; and in nearly every instance have witnessed, and taken some part in, the conferring of one or more of the degrees."

Under "notable events" he records the following:

"The conferring, in Columbia Chapter, No. 1, on the evening of September 27, of the R. A. degree by Past Grand High Priest J. H. Jochum upon his twin sons."

"The conferring of the same degree in Lafayette Chapter, No. 5, upon his two sons by Past Grand High Priest Noble D. Larner, on the evening of October 26."

"The accession to our fraternity of that distinguished patriot and valiant leader, Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, and the conferring of the Capitular degrees upon him."

A dispensation had been applied for to confer the degrees on Bro. Schley, "for the reason that, being a Rear Admiral in the U. S. Navy, and about to take command of the South Atlantic Squadron, he would be compelled to leave the city, to be absent at sea and in foreign lands for an indefinite period, before his petition could be received and the degrees be conferred in the usual time required for that purpose."

"While declining to grant the dispensation as requested, I replied that under the exceptional circumstances, and considering that the good of the Craft would be greatly promoted thereby, I would be present at the convocation mentioned and confer the degrees, availing myself, for the purpose, of the services of the officers of that Chapter so far as I might deem expedient; and did so, accordingly, in the presence of over two hundred Companions, including many of the most eminent in this jurisdiction."

The Grand High Priest thus concluded his interesting address:

"May each of us be imbued with that spirit of friendship which is denoted by the banner of the First Veil, that spirit of union which is typified by the banner of the Second Veil, that fervency and zeal of which the banner of the Third Veil is the symbol, so that when we shall be called to enter within the Fourth and final Veil, we may be entitled to bear aloft its white banner by virtue of that purity of life and rectitude of conduct which should characterize all Royal Arch Masons."

The Committees on Grievances and Appeals, Jurisprudence, etc., had little or nothing before them. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution was "laid on the table":

"Each Chapter shall pay to the Grand Chapter, at every Annual Convocation, three dollars for the exaltation of every Companion subsequent to the last preceding Annual Convocation, and the sum of fifty cents as annual dues for every member on the roll of the Chapter at

the time of making the annual report to the Grand Chapter: *Provided*, That no Chapter shall be charged any initiation fee or annual dues for clergymen for whom no fee or dues shall have been charged by such Chapter."

Comp. W. R. Singleton's review of the capitular world is as usual attractive and instructive. He had Canada for 1899 under inspection and reports well of it. To our remarks on the question of distributing official information, he furnishes an explanation of the method adopted in his jurisdiction:

"In response to this we have to state that the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge sends a copy of the printed Proceedings each year to the Secretaries of all the Chapters, from which they ascertain who are dropped, and then each member thus reported as being dropped is notified by the Secretary of his Chapter that he is suspended. If, however, any member thus notified has been reinstated, he furnishes his Secretary a certificate of such restoration.

"We thank him for his notice of our own efforts to spread the light of Masonry abroad. Nearly sixty years in the study and observation of Masonic 'principles' have given us great advantage in the application thereof to all Masonic questions. We aim to divest ourself as much as possible of every tendency to prejudge any question, but to apply thereto the 'touchstone' of Truth—'Divine Truth'—where it should be applied, and we generally find that our very best writers and sound thinkers agree in our conclusions."

William Barnum, Washington, Grand High Priest.
Arvine W. Johnston, Washington, Grand Secretary.

Florida.

Chapters .. 18. Members .. 693.

On the 8th May, 1900, the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was opened, by Grand High Priest James Carnell in the Masonic Temple, Jacksonville, with a goodly representation, among whom Canada's envoy was not.

The Grand High Priest characterized his year as one of "perfect harmony and satisfactory progress."

For what appeared to him good and sufficient reasons, he granted some ten dispensations; several for "rapid transit," two to publicly instal officers, and one for a new Chapter at Miami.

He noticed the practice of some Chapters which reinstated members suspended for non-payment of dues

and issuing demits to such members bearing date of suspension. This he believed to be a harmful practice and contrary to law.

Open confession, it is said, is good for the soul.

"The disappointment of not being able to visit more of the Chapters has been the only cloud to darken the sky during my term of office, and it is the more humiliating because it is so entirely my own fault. I should not have delayed so important a matter until so late a day."

He instituted the new Chapter at Miami and worked the degrees upon seventeen applicants, and remarks: "I heard no complaint from any of the candidates that they had not received the value of their money."

In view of the difficulty he experienced in getting round to the Chapters himself, he recommended the division of the jurisdiction into four districts for visitation purposes, and that one of these districts be assigned to each of the four highest elective officers of Grand Chapter, whose duty it shall be to visit each of the Chapters in his district, at least once during the year. This was subsequently embodied in a resolution which was adopted.

To those who enjoy the honor of Grand Representative, but are remiss in attendance, the following resolution will come as a severe reminder:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to furnish to the M.·.E.·.Grand High Priest the names of such Grand Representatives of sister Grand Jurisdictions as have failed to attend the past two convocations of this Grand Chapter without having offered a satisfactory excuse for such delinquency, and that the M.·.E.·.Grand High Priest, during the interim, be requested to recommend to said Grand Jurisdictions the cancellation of the commissions of such Grand Representatives and recommend for appointment such Companions as he may select.

New Mexico was recognised and an exchange of representatives recommended.

Climbing two or three flights of stairs was not an exercise calculated to even the temper of the Companions, for it was resolved that "Grand Chapter do urge and request that the M. W. Grand Lodge take

steps to build an elevator in or attached to the Masonic Temple for the use of the Masonic bodies using the third and fourth floors."

There was no report on Correspondence.

Elmer E. Haskell, Palatka, Grand High Priest.
Wilber P. Webster, Jacksonville, Grand Secretary.

Georgia.

Chapters .. 100. Members .. 3,338.

Death has sorely afflicted this Grand Chapter, for within the year no less than four of its officers were taken. Companions Orlando McLendon, Deputy Grand High Priest; Herschel V. Lester, Grand Treasurer; Whiteford S. Ramsay, Grand Chaplain, and Thomas W. Freeman, Grand Sentinel. With one of these lamented Companions we have for a few years exchanged thought and sentiment and learned to love and respect him. Rev. Comp. Ramsay, in addition to performing the duties of Grand Chaplain, was also the Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee, and most ably was that trying position sustained by him.

"Born in Milledgeville, June 8th, 1840, he came of a distinguished Scotch family. He was educated under his father at Oglethorpe College and graduated in 1857. For twenty years he was pastor of the Baptist Church at Dublin, and as a pulpit orator none excelled him. He lived in the love and esteem of his people.

"Of him we may well say, truly a good man and Mason has gone to his just reward."

Little wonder if the Companions at the seventy-eighth Annual Convocation, held at Macon on the 25th April, 1900, were subdued, and memories of the past stirred in each as they contemplated the emblems of mourning which these vacancies occasioned.

M. E. Companion Burr's address, like those of most of his predecessors, was a carefully prepared document, evincing much thought and well expressed admonition. He reported a happy condition of progress and renewed evidences of prosperity to come. He was enabled to do this conscientiously for his visitations to the Chapters were numerous and productive of good At Athens he remained with the Companions three days. The boom

they are enjoying there he attributes to the personal activity of the presiding officer of the Chapter.

"I know of no place where Masonry is on a greater increase than in this place. I conferred the degrees of the Chapter on twenty-two candidates and left twenty-two for them to work upon after my departure. All had been ballotted upon to receive the degrees Their returns will show a greater increase than any other Chapter in the State."

He constituted five Chapters, instituted one and revived a couple of dormant ones. The Grand Secretary however reported ten charters forfeited.

A paper prepared by the daughter of a distinguished Georgia Companion, Dr. Abram Love, now dead, was read by Companion J. L. Brown. The young lady's effort proved her to be a worthy child of a worthy sire, and a rare enthusiast in Masonic research. The paper was entitled, "Some Side Lights on the History of the Royal Arch Chapter in Georgia, Dedicated to the Memory of Companion Wm. Abram Love, M.D." In opening the lady writes:

"Study the light; attempt the high! Walk
Boldly and wisely in that light thou hast;
There is a hand above will help thee on."

A recent research in tracing the upward and onward progress of a beloved father through his work in the various Masonic Grand bodies of Georgia and the United States, has led to the collection of these side lights on Georgia Masonic history. If the presentation of them shall, by chance, but dimly illume the way for even one searcher after truth, they will have served their purpose, inasmuch as they will have, to that degree, illustrated the fact that:

"Being dead he yet speaketh."

A very interesting sketch of the early history of the Georgia Royal Arch is closed with the following incident:

"Of course the war brought another obstacle to the growth of the Royal Arch work, as to all else. An interesting item may here be put on record for Masonry, however. When the invading foe reached the home of Dr. Daniel Hook, the first Grand Secretary of the State, he chanced to be there, but of course tried to make his escape. In passing out of his house he threw his Masonic apron across the threshold, and went his way. The enemy, so relentless everywhere, saw this white messenger, and at once ordered that Mrs. Hook and

her children be placed in a secure position, and a guard stationed for her protection. Is it any wonder that strength and power and unity have grown into the Order?"

Needless to say that the thanks of Grand Chapter were unanimously accorded to Miss Bunnie Love for this evidence of her affection for the Royal Craft in which her lamented father was a revered and honored member.

Comp. Robert L. Colding was another historical contributor, dealing with a period affecting the early days of the colony from 1735. He related that through a descendant, a lady, he came into possession of the jewel and apron of Brother Benjamin Sheftall, who was Master of Solomons Lodge, Savannah, in 1758.

"The Master's Jewel bears the date 1758, and the apron contains a combination of Blue Lodge and Chapter emblems, prominent among which is a circle which encloses the letter 'G,' and in the circle are the mysterious letters 'H. T. W. S. S. K. S.,' the meaning of which is so well known to every Royal Arch Mason.

"Masonic history informs us that originally the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in the Blue Lodge, and then only upon those who had actually presided as the Master of a symbolic Lodge. There can be no reasonable doubt of the fact that Brother Sheftall was a Royal Arch Mason, and as he was quite young when he came to this country and never returned to his mother country, and as he was Master twenty-three years after Solomons Lodge was constituted, a natural, reasonable and logical conclusion is that he received the Royal Arch Degree in Solomons Lodge, as this was the only Lodge in Georgia at that time.

"We are all taught that each and every Masonic symbol has its deep and significant meaning, and it is not reasonable to suppose that Brother Sheftall would have worn in a Blue Lodge an apron with emblems upon it that form no part and had no connection with the ceremonies of the lodge over which he was called to preside. Hence I think we can all rest assured that while the earliest Chapter in Georgia was not established until about fifty-five years after Solomons Lodge was constituted, still we can easily see that the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in Georgia from the time the Charter or warrant of Solomons Lodge was granted by the Grand Lodge of England, 1735."

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals had two cases to consider. They sustained the verdict of the Chapter in the matter of Companion J. W. Battle, charged with non-payment of dues and non-payment of his honest debts and false statements regarding the same, and recommended expulsion.

R. E. Companion Alexander M. Lambdin succeeds to the Chair of Correspondence vacated by the death of Companion Ramsay, and thus introduces himself:

"There is a sacredness in taking up the work of another, who has been recently called to his reward, especially one whose work has been faithfully, efficiently and joyfully performed for many years. Impressed with this emotion, and realizing how sorely will be missed the ever pertinent and pleasing comments of our beloved Companion, W. S. Ramsay, not only by the members of the Grand Chapter in our own State, but also in the many others whose work he was wont to review, we bring you hesitatingly a necessarily hurried report of forty-seven Grand Jurisdictions."

He briefly reviews Canada for 1899 and 1900, and has a kind word to say of our condition and standing. His report if "necessarily hurried" indicates that when settled down to the work he will be an acquisition to the corps. We extend a fraternal welcome to Companion Lambdin.

Henry C. Burr, Griffin, Grand High Priest.
Wm. A. Wolihin, Macon, Grand Secretary.

Illinois.

Chapters .. 187. Members .. 17,324.

M. E. Comp. Nathaniel Bowditch had the honor to preside over the Fifty-first Annual Convocation in Chicago, on the 25th and 26th October, 1900. It was an eventful occasion because of the celebration of the Grand Chapter's Semi-Centennial. There were many distinguished visitors present, among them being Canada's Grand Z.

M. E. Comp. Reid was introduced by R. E. Comp. Charles H. Patton in the following words:

"M. E. Grand High Priest: For a number of years I have been the Grand Representative of the Grand Jurisdiction of Canada, near the Grand Chapter of Illinois, and I have never had any pleasant or arduous duties to perform until the present occasion. I have discovered that the great paternal head of the Grand Chapter of Canada is with us and I have had the pleasure of meeting him, and I now have the pleasure of introducing him to you, and through you, sir, to the Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Illinois—M. E. Companion W. G. Reid."

The M. E. Grand High Priest then said:

"M. E. Companion Reid, I fraternally welcome you to this Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Illinois has a warm place in its heart for the Grand Chapter and constituent Chapters of Canada, and on behalf of this Grand Organization I extend to you a cordial welcome. Companions, it is my privilege, as well as pleasure, to introduce to you Most Excellent Companion W. G. Reid, Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Canada. You will join with me in extending to him the Grand Masonic honors."

The Grand Z. in replying for Canada received a most hospitable greeting.

Grand High Priest Bowditch in his exordium said:

"A retrospective view carries us back to fifty years ago, when the little band, the fathers of this great Grand Chapter, first met in the city of Springfield.

"But 'they builded wiser than they knew.' The infant that day born soon became a lusty youth and has for many years been enjoying a vigorous manhood.

"That we have been prosperous our records and your presence here in large numbers plainly attest. So far as is known, but one of the original founders, Charles Fisher, is living to-day. He has been invited and will be present as the guest of honor of this Grand Chapter.

'They are not dead to whom the last is spoken;
They are not gone of whom we see no more;
Still do they live, in life and light unbroken;
Still are they near, yea, nearer than before.'"

The new "work" of the jurisdiction had made no mention of the display of the Three Great Lights, and he was appealed to thereon by a Past High Priest.

"The Grand Chapter of Illinois will never permit, nor can it tolerate the opening of a Chapter or its appendant lodges without the *open* presence of the 'Holy Bible, Square and Compasses.'"

Another of his decisions was:

"A Royal Arch Mason who by reason of physical infirmities is unable to conform literally to all or any of the requirements of the ritual may be excused from such performance by the High Priest. Such inability will in no way affect his standing in the Chapter or his right of visitation."

The new General Grand's ritual, adopted in place of Illinois' once incomparable "Blackhawk," he said was fairly well received.

"But one ritual is furnished each Chapter and certain restric-

tions are imposed upon its use. If two or more rituals will better serve the interests and prosperity of each Chapter than one ritual, it would be good policy, under proper safeguards, to issue them."

He therefore recommended that this Grand Chapter publish its own ritual and in one book, printed in such a form as will best conserve all its esoteric requirements. That three copies be furnished each Chapter. That one copy be furnished each Grand officer and Past Grand High Priest. That every Past High Priest who is actively interested and engaged in the work of his Chapter be also furnished a copy. Said rituals to be issued under proper restrictions.

He was active in visitation and observed that some of the Chapters were slow to acquire the new ritual.

The Semi-Centennial Committee reported that they had decided "to commemorate this epoch of our history by striking a medal, by a memorial volume, and by a fraternal banquet."

We take this opportunity to acknowledge receipt of the commemorative medal, to express regret at being unable to assist at the fraternal banquet, and to state that we live in hope of a pleasant perusal of the memorial volume.

The Grand Chapter of New Mexico was recognised.

It was resolved "that the incoming Grand High Priest be authorized to procure a suitable official jewel of that office, to be worn by him and his successors during the term of office as presiding officer."

E. Comp. Charles Fisher presented a gavel to the Grand High Priest in the following interesting words :

"I desire to present to you personally, for the long friendship that has existed between us, this little emblem of our Masonic authority, not for its intrinsic value and worth, but from the simple fact that it was made from an elm tree planted by the immortal Lincoln, with his own hands, in front of his house. He was a personal friend of mine from my youth. When I was quite a boy at Springfield I made his acquaintance. This is a gavel which I desire to present you, as being made from that tree, planted by the great captain of our salvation and the savior of our country, and I hope you will receive it, and should occasion ever require, use it with moderation, so that it will promote harmony among the craft."

By resolution, Companion Fisher was elected a per-

manent member of Grand Chapter and entitled to mileage and per diem for attendance at its annual convocations.

The indefatigable Companion J. W. Pearson reviews fifty-four volumes of proceedings, and Canada for 1900 is included. He studied the report of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, and adverting to our territory of magnificent distances remarks :

"After reading this report and those of the Superintendents we can not but think that the time is not far distant when another Grand Chapter, and perhaps two, will be formed within the Dominion. The distances are too great, even in these days of rapid transportation. We have thought that two of the most easterly might very properly be consolidated, but Manitoba and Columbia are too far off to send representatives to Ontario in midwinter. However, there is no hurry and our Companions on the ground understand the matter."

Geo. W. Warvelle, Chicago, Grand High Priest.
Gil. W. Barnard, Chicago, Grand Secretary.

Indiana.

Chapters .. 97. Members .. 7,218.

Canada's representative, M. E. Comp. Thos. R. Marshall, worthily sustained the dignity of the highest office in the gift of the Royal Craft at the Fifty-fifth Annual Convocation, held at Indianapolis on the 17th and 18th October, 1900.

In the previous July, and with an awful suddenness, Past Grand High Priest Thomas Benton Long was called from earth, and the announcement cast a deep gloom over the State, for the ex-judge was a well-known man. He held the following offices in the several Grand Bodies of Indiana, to-wit: Grand Master of Masons, from May, 1889, to 1890; Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter, from October, 1879, to 1880; Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters, from October, 1894, to 1895. He was President of the Order of High Priesthood at the date of his death, and was and had been for many years the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Aside from the inestimable service he has

rendered the craft in this capacity, his History of Royal Arch Masonry in Indiana, prepared and printed with the proceedings of the Semi-Centennial meeting, is a model of scholarly attainments and of great research.

"No mere man may write his history nor take his photograph. These are of the intangible, which we call 'Memory,' elusive as shadows of an April day, yet as imperishable as the fiat of the Eternal. Who may recall in fitting terms the treasured knowledge of this good man gone, his devotion to our Royal Craft, his intense humanity yet divine charity for his fellowmen, his genial intercourse with his brethren, but, above all, those awful nights which came to him, as they come to us all, when in the Gethsemanes of life, flesh and spirit strive until the blood sweat comes, over the great problems of human life! How many lose themselves in the wilderness of thought, and oh, how many there be who come therefrom along the Via Dolorosa to the Golgotha of all human hopes. May Jehovah, our covenant-keeping God, give rest to the ashes, peace to the soul, and the sweet savor of incense to the memory of our Illustrious Companion; and, may his untimely taking off give us all a firmer hold upon the Infinite and upon His eternal good purposes for us, and may we learn under every stress of circumstance that

> 'The hero is not fed on sweets;
> Daily his own heart he eats;
> Chambers of the great are jails,
> And head winds right for royal sails.'"

The complaint of an Indiana Chapter touching an invasion by two Kentucky Chapters, had occasioned much heart-burning and interchange of communications. The matter was however finally adjusted, and in a truly Masonic spirit. The Grand High Priest said:

"I take great pleasure in proclaiming to the craft at large that there is not now between the jurisdictions of Indiana and Kentucky a cloud even so large as a man's hand that might deter any Companion from the prospective pilgrimage to Louisville next year. And I take pleasure in further saying that I have the assurance of the Companions of Kentucky that during the meeting of the Grand Encampment nothing will be too good for a Hoosier visitor."

He issued dispensations for new Chapters at Eden and Noblesville.

A number of decisions were heard on the "simple objection" question, and were in each case approved, but that it works harshly in solitary cases is demonstrated by the following:

"I decided that although a petitioner duly elected had been

stopped by an objection nine years ago, yet if the objector now withdrew the objection it was not necessary for a new petition nor to respread the ballot, but the degrees might be conferred."

Why should that brother have been denied the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry for that long period merely because a Companion chooses to say, "I object"? If the objection had been followed by an investigation and it was found that it rested on a good foundation, one could understand the course pursued, but it is hardly likely that a brother who has been barred for nine years on the whim of another who now is graciously pleased to remove his disfavour, would willingly join the Chapter, or if he did that he could be counted upon to wax enthusiastic over it.

As an illustration of the fine drawn rectitude of our Hoosier Companions, an incident related by the Grand High Priest is instructive. The Chairman of Foreign Correspondence had been restricted by a resolution of Grand Chapter to one hundred pages, no more. In sizing up the proofs, however, he discovered that he had exceeded the limit, but could not in justice to his report at that juncture, cut it down, and so he explained to the Grand Secretary, who appealed to the Grand High Priest. The latter replied:

"That he was a poor presiding officer who insisted upon obedience to the law upon the part of subordinates and was unwilling to comply with the law himself; that I could not assume the responsibility of exceeding one hundred pages of printed matter at the expense of the Grand Chapter, but that if he would become primarily responsible for the excess I would recommend to the next Convocation of the Grand Chapter that the excess thereof be re-imbursed to him."

For the excess pages the Grand Secretary paid $27.55, and the Committee on Claims, a year later, re-imbursed him. The same Committee also recommended:

"In view of the extreme ill-health and broken down physical condition of our most worthy Grand Secretary, William H. Smythe, that he be given permission to take a prolonged vacation from his office and all its duties, in the hope that he may be restored to health and vigor, and to enable him so to do, with somewhat of peace and comfort, and as a mark of our esteem, that an allowance be made to him in the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars."

The Grievances and Appeals Committee had nothing for consideration, and reported:

"The incense of peace and harmony burns continuously upon our altar, while the malodorous lamp of discord and hatred burned so low that love with its downy wing has put out the flame."

After the death of Companion Thomas B. Long, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, the Grand High Priest ascertained that the report had not been prepared for this year. "I discovered that Henry W. Mordhurst had nothing to do except to read Masonic literature, and I consequently appointed him Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence."

The selection was an admirable one, but unfortunately after giving to his Companions what he promised in his exordium, "a chatty report," he cruelly announced in the "conclusion" that "it is the only one he shall write for Grand Chapter for the next year he returns to his first love, the Grand Council Correspondence."

Under Canada he refers to the Grand Council as the

"Grand X. Y. Z's. (or something like that) 'on the throne.'

"The special Convocation was held to elect a Grand Scribe E., or in plain English, a Grand Secretary.

"The choice was a good one, and if Companion Bennett will hereafter give us names instead of initials he will soon be a model Secretary."

Later on he says:

"The report on Foreign Correspondence is again by Companion George J. Bennett. He is a pleasing writer and painstaking reviewer, but it seems that he could be a little more indulgent with those who do not see through Canada glasses."

From all of which it may pardonably be inferred that Companion Mordhurst would have us "indulgent enough" to regard things generally through Hoosier spectacles.

"How much of wisdom we can see
With sages who with us agree;
But fools who hold some other view—
Oh, bah! They're not worth listening to."

Renwick W. Crockett, Delphi, Grand High Priest.
William H. Smythe, Indianapolis, Grand Secretary

Indian Territory.

Chapters .. 26. Members .. 977.

Ardmore, a name with a Hibernian flavor about it, was the place selected for the Eleventh Annual Convocation, which commenced on April 17th, 1900. The month of meeting had been changed from September so that an interval of seven months only had elapsed since the previous "Annual."

Grand High Priest Spencer's address was correspondingly brief. He did not record any visitations.

The Grand Secretary was instructed to draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for ten per cent. of the receipts of the Grand Chapter this year, after deducting the appropriations made at this Convocation, for the benefit of the Orphans' Home.

The application of sixteen Companions of South McAlester to have the place of meeting of Indian Chapter, No. 1, changed to McAlester, was granted.

Oklahoma City and Muskogee were rivals for the honor of Grand Chapter's next meeting place, and on a ballot the former won. This was subsequently reconsidered on motion of a Companion and Muskogee came out ahead.

Center and Enid Chapters, U.D., received their charters.

The Masonic halls at Ardmore and Muskogee having been destroyed by fire, the dues of the respective Chapters were remitted.

Past Grand High Priest Walrond made some very appropriate remarks about the imperfect manner in which some of the Chapters confer the degrees, and moved that "Chapters desiring to receive the services of the Grand Lecturer, who is an excellent Chapter as well as Blue Lodge ritualist, be requested to pay to him such wages for his services as the Grand Lodge allows." The motion was adopted.

Comp. J. S. Murrow, Grand Secretary, compiled the report on Correspondence and generously dealt with

Canada for 1900, and quotes us to the extent of a couple of pages, while refraining from comment.

Jonas A. Lee, Rush Springs, Grand High Priest.
Joseph S. Murrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary.

Iowa.

Chapters .. 123. Members .. 7,911.

In "ample form," although it was the Deputy Grand High Priest who officiated, the Forty-Seventh Annual Convocation was opened in DesMoines on the 18th October, 1900.

Grand High Priest Parker, owing to business necessities, had been compelled to move to Missouri.

The Deputy Grand High Priest's address, however, amply covered the ground. He congratulated the Companions upon an increased prosperity.

"A net increase of three hundred and four, as against a net increase of one hundred and twenty-five during the preceding year. Thus while we have added but one to the number of Chapters, the membership of the Order has been greatly increased, and we are led to hope that Capitular Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction has just entered upon the road to expansion with prosperity unbounded."

He had applications for new Chapters from several localities which he did not deem promising, and declined to issue the coveted dispensation.

"Had the contingent fund provided by the Grand Chapter been adequate to that end I should have visited several localities during the summer to ascertain if decaying Chapters could not be converted into live ones by their removal. I believe it is better in this way to infuse new life into an old Chapter than to create new ones and leave the old to suffer a lingering death."

He very strongly advocated the law to compel dependent membership.

The Companions of Palestine Chapter, No. 101, who surrendered their Charter in 1890, petitioned for its restoration, and their request was complied with.

The Grand Secretary, in his report, made the pleasing announcement that every one of the one hundred and twenty-three Chapters on the roll had made complete returns to his office. Happy jurisdiction.

The Cryptic degrees having been divorced from the Chapter work, a call was made for a return of the rituals. Forty-five of the Chapters had neglected to comply, and a resolution authorizing the incoming Grand High Priest to take action thereon was carried.

M. E. Comp. Ercanbrack's desire that the next Convocation should be held in the mystic atmosphere of Spirit Lake, was shelved in favor of Davenport, which was championed by a Companion with the prosaic cognomen of Fidlar.

The amount to the credit of the Charity Fund was announced to be $11,119.78, and appropriations for four beneficiaries to the extent of $575 were recommended and approved.

Complaint had been lodged against a Chapter at Bedford which had, it was alleged, received petitions, balloted for same, and generally acted upon, at one and the same meeting, and that the Secretary had manipulated the records of the previous Convocation in order to make things fit in. The complainant in the case was, curiously enough, one of the parties to the irregularity. The Committee to whom the case was referred summed up in this lenient frame:

"While your committee would most severely condemn the infraction of the law, we realize that in all cases there are times when Masonic charity should be extended. In order that no unwarranted punishment should be meted out to old and faithful officials who have long years of zealous service to their credit and a single unlawful act to their discredit, we recommend that the Grand High Priest be authorized to rescind the order of arrest if in his judgment the same shall become proper; but that the orders heretofore made continue until the expiration of the terms of office of the offendimg High Priest and the offending Secretary unless a further order be made thereon by the Grand High Priest, as herein authorized."

There was a veteran among the delegates present, and this is how the good Iowa Companions recognised one who had grown old in the service:

"In view of the fact that we have in attendance at this session the oldest acting High Priest in our jurisdiction, Companion George Beeson, of Kadosh Chapter, No. 83, he being ninety-two years old, and for his long service and devotion to Royal Arch Masonry, therefore be it—

"*Resolved*, That the Finance Committee be instructed to report an appropriation of $50 for his use and benefit."

The genial Companion Ercanbrack precedes his pleasant report on Correspondence as follows:

"The fiercer the fight between contending parties and belligerent nations, the calmer is the field of action in which Royal Arch Masons perform their work. They are the conservators of that peace which affords a haven of rest to those who for a time retreat from contest and seek repose. In the annals of Capitular Masonry are to be found no words that indicate that malice rankles in any human breast, or weapons of destruction are wielded by any hand.

"After devoting days to the perusal of the volumes herein reviewed, to the neglect of all current literature, how charmingly sounds Cowper's prayer—

> "'O for a lodge in some vast wilderness,
> Some boundless contiguity of shade;
> Where rumor of oppression and deceit,
> Of unsuccessful or successful war,
> Might never reach me more.'

"Then comes the blissful thought—

> "'So peaceful shalt thou end thy blissful days,
> And steal thyself from life by slow decays.'

"The committee entreats all those who mayhap read any part of this report to do so in the morning, before the despatches from China reach him."

Reviewing Canada for 1900, he has this to say:

"From our report upon Canada last year we quote one sentence, 'And the wonder now is what enumeration of 1900 will supplant that of five thousand five hundred and ninety-four of 1899?' That wonder is gratefully gratified by the announcement, five thousand eight hundred and seventy!"

"Most Excellent Companion W. G. Reid had a long story to tell about Capitular affairs, to which that respectful and close attention was given which is the characteristic of a Canadian audience. Among the spell-bound listeners was C. W. Postlethwaite, the official bearer of Iowa's good-will."

He quotes the writer on Iowa's public installations, and in reply to our hope that the ladies and friends were duly impressed, says:

"'Impressed?' Indeed they were!

"Companion George, do not be so chary of 'the ladies and friends of the Companions.' The sons of Uncle Sam believe in 'ladies and friends' most thoroughly. The very best friend of each one of them is a lady. And after a long and rich experience, not one of them can fully answer the question—

> "'What will not woman, gentle woman, dare
> When strong affection stirs her spirit up?'"

N. B. Hyatt, Webster City, Grand High Priest.
Alf. Wingate, Des Moines, Grand Secretary.

Kansas.

Chapters .. 81 Members .. 5,203

A fine steel engraved portrait of the late Grand Secretary M. E. Comp. Jacob DeWitt prefaces the record of Proceedings of the Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation, held in Topeka, on February 19 and 20, 1900.

The Grand High Priest, concluding a beautiful memorial, said of him:

"In the beautiful cemetery near the city of Salina, the old lodge which had raised him to Masonic Light over thirty-one years before, quietly performed the ancient ceremony which laid to rest all that was mortal of our beloved Companion, there to await the application of that Strength of the Lion of the Tribe of Judah that should for him prevail. A kind and loving husband and father, a good citizen, a loyal Mason and friend, a Christian gentleman, has gone to his reward."

From the biographical sketch which preceded the foregoing, the following facts are extracted:

"Our distinguished Companion was born at Montreal, Canada, on January 8, 1834, and was therefore sixty-six years and twenty days of age at the time of his death. His father, whose full name he bore, was a native of Windham, Conn., and a lineal descendant of the old Dutch settlers who came from Holland more than two hundred years ago. Jacob DeWitt, Sr., was a warm admirer of Henry Clay, and though for a generation a member of the Canadian Parliament, he never forgot the place of his birth, or ceased to entertain a warm affection for the flag of the Union and the principles of free government.

"Our Companion was married in 1862, to Catharine Keefer, of Ontario, Canada, a near relative of the famous engineers of that name, who have borne so conspicuous a part in the public works system of Canada. Seven children were born as the result of this union, only one of whom, a son—Alfred Sherman DeWitt—is now living, and he, with his mother, the wife of nearly forty years, mourns the departure of the faithful and loving husband and father."

The Grand High Priest arrested the Charters of two delinquent Chapters, and issued a dispensation for one new Chapter.

A number of decisions were given, all covered by the regulations.

He appointed R. E. Companion William M. Shaver to the Secretaryship made vacant by the decease of Comp. DeWitt. This was confirmed by Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary's report sufficiently demonstrates that the affairs of Grand Chapter have been entrusted to competent hands.

At ten o'clock on the morning of the second day of the Convocation, a Memorial Service was held.

The Grand High Priest announced that he had specially requested two Past Grand High Priests, who through many years of association, had been warm personal friends of the departed Companion, to prepare tributes to the character and virtues of the deceased, namely: M.·. E.·. William D. Thompson and M.·. E.·. John C. Postlethwaite.

Touching and eloquent were those tributes, and those who heard them must have realized how great the loss Kansas had sustained.

Grand Secretary Shaver, in his report, thus refers to the condition of matters when he was called upon to assume office:

"Comp. DeWitt died on January 28th—only three short weeks before this Annual Convocation—and at the time when the annual returns from the Chapters were coming by every mail into the office."

"The usual routine work of the office seems to have been performed with the customary promptness and ability. The last Annual Proceedings were prepared, published and distributed through the proper channels. The Report on Foreign Correspondence, that able review from his pen which we have read from year to year with so much pleasure and profit, was the work upon which our Companion was last engaged, but it was hardly more than just begun when his labors on earth ceased. Of the foreign Proceedings reviewed, nine only appear to have been reduced to writing. I would recommend that these be published, with a prefatory note, rather than to delay the issuance of the Proceedings of this Convocation by the preparation of a complete report by a new committee. The report of the new committee published with the Proceedings of next year can cover the ground thus omitted in this year's review."

And Canada for 1899 was one of the nine. He gave three pages of extracts, from the address and the writer's report, and expressed hearty concurrence in our views on the harsh law adopted by a sister jurisdiction which expels for non-payment of dues.

"There is no flock, however watched and tended,
But one dead lamb is there;
There is no fireside, howsoe'er defended,
But has one vacant chair."

Joseph W. Smith, Minneapolis, Grand High Priest.
William M. Shaver, Topeka, Grand Secretary.

Kentucky.

Chapters .. 73 Members .. 3,269

Since the previous Convocation, this Grand Chapter had to mourn the death of its Deputy Grand High Priest, R. E. Comp. Robert Perrine Jenkins, and Past Grand High Priest John P. Rascoe, who ruled over the Royal Craft in 1871 :

"These faithful Craftsmen have gone to their reward, and we will miss them, but the influence of their example upon us who remain, we hope, will lead us to imitate them, and after awhile we go up to receive the great reward provided for all who practise the sublime principles of Masonry."

Grand High Priest William R. Johnson addressed the Annual Convocation assembled at Louisville on October 17, 1899, and prefaced his remarks with touching references to the departed Companions.

The "hurry order" business was popular in Kentucky this year, for he granted no less than twenty-four dispensations to act on petitions out of time. He comments on the matter and asks :

"Why are so many dispensations for this purpose asked for? No doubt, the reasons given are good and sufficient and it seems necessary.

"Every Grand High Priest is perplexed when confronted with the subject—I confess I have been and have granted nearly all applied for.

"I have given much thought as to the cause and remedy, but have not reached a satisfactory conclusion. If the degrees of the Chapter were properly valued, candidates would not ask for haste nor be allowed to make the Chapter simply a stepping-stone to the Commandery, as is now too often the case. Have I not stated the cause? What is the remedy proposed? I am not certain I have the right one, but I would like to see the following method faithfully tried, viz.: At least two meetings a month for a Chapter and work in one degree, never in more than two degrees at *each* meeting."

A curious property incident, which brought to the surface the "incorporation" question, he narrates as follows :

"Over fifty years ago, Swigert Chapter, No. 40, became defunct, having at the time an interest in a lot and house in Cadiz, Kentucky, which, under our law, reverted to this Grand Chapter ; Cadiz Lodge, No. 121, owned an equal interest in the same.

"An offer was made for the property and the Grand Council was asked by me to join Cadiz Lodge in a deed conveying their joint interest in this property for $1,000—the money to be divided between the Lodge and Grand Chapter.

"The consent of the Grand Council was obtained, but when it came to making a deed, I could find no authority to do so. After examining Sec. 13 of Art. VIII, which says: 'If there is no analagous rule of the Grand Chapter, then the laws of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky F. & A. M., shall apply and be applicable,' I turned the matter over to the Grand Secretary, but the proposed buyer refused to accept any but a general warranty deed.

"I have had a careful search made and find that this Grand Chapter is not a corporate body and cannot hold real estate.

"I recommended that it be incorporated and that the incoming Grand High Priest be authorized to sell the property referred to, and if not sold, that he take such steps as will protect the rights of this Grand Chapter."

His recommendation was accepted by the Jurisprudence Committee, which, later, submitted a report embracing a resolution which was adopted by Grand Chapter.

In a previous year Indiana had complained of an invasion of jurisdiction by two Kentucky Chapters, which put forward the plea that the offences were not intentional and "that the candidates were Ministers of the Gospel upon whom the degrees are usually conferred without fee in both jurisdictions, notwithstanding the law forbids it." The Indiana Chapter, however, would have nothing short of full justice and demanded the fees.

The Grand High Priest admitted the claim and recommended action to enforce it. The Finance Committee's report, which was adopted, gave to the offending Chapters six months in which to effect a settlement with the Indiana Chapter.

"And, if at the expiration of that time, the matter is not satisfactorily settled, the incoming Grand High Priest is directed to arrest the charters of the two (2) Chapters mentioned."

The Grand Secretary reported but three rituals on hand, a supply not equal to the demand.

The "Home" was reported to be in a flourishing condition.

Wingo Chapter, U. D., was instituted with ten

charter members and had grown in the interval to fifty-four. A charter was of course granted.

Past Grand High Priest Jas. W. Staton, one of Kentucky's pillars of strength, again furnishes the report on Correspondence. Bereavement sore afflicted him in previous years. This year his path was beset by fire and other troubles, but, like the dauntless Companion that he is, he stayed by his post of duty undismayed.

Under Canada, he refers to the announcement by the Grand Z. of the existence of a spurious body, and learns of it with surprise. It was equally a surprise to many in this jurisdiction.

This so-called Grand Chapter, it appears, was really born under the auspices of the clandestine Blue Lodge, but its infancy was weak and it never attained anything like mature strength. It languished early in its career and developed a condition of coma for want of sustenance. Comp. Staton's remark that the relics should never have been recognized, is also the opinion of many here.

He is emphatic in his denunciation of the cheapening of the degrees.

To our expressed surprise that the constituent Chapters would have it in their power to regulate their dues to the Grand body, he rejoins:

> "Well, why not right? Does not the Grand Chapter get its revenue from the Chapters through their representatives? And if the mileage and per diem to the representatives were cut off, does not our esteemed Companion think that Chapters by their representatives would cut off the amount of Grand Chapter dues to that extent? The power of the revenues of Grand Chapter is controlled entirely by the votes of representatives of Chapters. It is true the fees and dues to Grand Chapter is fixed by constitution, but who made the constitution if not the representatives of Chapters? and if so made, the same power which made it can change it and reduce the revenues of Grand Chapter."

An argument which, to our Canadian vision, savors of the whipping the devil round the stump variety. At the same time we admit that it is a very specious one in support of the pay roll.

Under Louisiana, he has the following paragraph, which will be perused with interest:

"Grand Chapter on the recommendation of the Committee on Correspondence, rescinded the edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Chapter of England, and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, etc., which was declared in 1886. We do not know what action in this matter the Grand Chapter of Louisiana took, but the action of the General Grand Chapter was only as to the Grand Mark Lodge, and not as to the Supreme Grand Chapter of England at all. There is no connection between the Grand Chapter of England and the Grand Mark Lodge of England whatever, and the latter being an inferior body ought never to have been recognized by the General Grand Chapter in 1877. We have no knowledge whatever that the Quebec troubles have been healed, and if so they only related to the Grand Mark Lodge and not to the Grand Chapter of England."

Comp. Staton and the writer may not agree on one or two points, but there is not a report that comes to this table that is more enjoyed than that from old Kentucky.

J. Speed Smith, Richmond, Grand High Priest.

Henry B. Grant, Louisville, Grand Secretary.

Louisiana.

Chapters .. 22 Members .. 1179

A substantial increase in membership was reported to Grand Chapter when that body met in Fifty-third Annual Convocation in New Orleans, on Feb. 13th.

M. E. Companion Geo. W. Bolton narrated his experience as Grand High Priest in a brief address which takes five pages of the Proceedings. He had an easy and pleasant year.

He issued dispensations for two new Chapters and to both charters were issued.

A number of non-affiliated Companions applied for certificates to enable them to re-affiliate so as to retain membership in their respective Commanderies. Thus the pre-requisite enactment of the Grand Commandery is having its effect.

Grand Chaplain Duncan prepared a concise and very interesting report on Correspondence. Under Canada he says :

"The Committee on Correspondence pokes a little fun at one of our Grand High Priests in locating Victoria in British Columbia.

However, Americans may possibly be excused for some confusion now-a-days concerning lands bathed by our Mill Pond, bounded by possessions of Uncle Sam North, East and West, yclept the Pacific Ocean. We have scarcely gotten our bearings as yet."

This gives some faint idea of the inflating effects of "expansion."

Referring to the case of a Companion who asked for and was granted his demit, but who repented before the document was signed and was informed that the order for the issuance of the paper was irrevocable, for the reason that the crucial act is the application to withdraw, coupled with the granting of permission, the demit being simply a certificate of a fact, Companion Duncan remarks:

"As a matter of strict construction we presume that the decision would hold, but why should we adhere to the letter of a law which killeth, and neglect the spirit? The spirit of the law is that every R. A. Mason should be affiliated. Here was a Companion who hastily, and under a misapprehension of facts, stated his desire to withdraw, but subsequently determined to preserve his affiliation with the same Chapter. Why should he be compelled to undergo the process of affiliation? Would it not be best to allow some little time to elapse before any action of a Chapter should become effective, and would it not be well to make it law that a demit is not effective until signed? Do not be hasty in rejecting the claims of a Companion, but let there always be due examination before claims are rejected. Let us live together as Companions, and let courtesy and consideration mark our every action."

A peculiar Florida enactment elicits the following, and being a "Reverend" himself he was sure not to pass it by:

"We are much surprised to find that the revised constitution of the Grand Chapter makes the title of the Chaplain 'Right Reverend.' 'Reverend' is not a Masonic title, but an ecclesiastical one, and 'Right Reverend,' according to the only nomenclature in which it is lawfully found, means a bishop. Do our Floridian Companions think they make a man a bishop when they elect him as their Grand Chaplain?"

Michigan's decision that an objection to an elected applicant is equivalent to a black-ball, is not in accord with Companion Duncan's code, and we thoroughly endorse his view.

"A black-ball is an exclusion for a definite time; an objection is

a temporary bar. A Companion hears something detrimental to a candidate, but it may not be true. He objects to a ballot to enable him to have time for inquiry. Perhaps before the next meeting he is satisfied that the man is worthy. He withdraws his objection and the man goes through. Had he been obliged to black-ball, or do its equivalent, he would have been compelled to keep a worthy man waiting at the door for months. Again, a candidate is elected, and afterwards a Companion hears something that had he known previously would have caused him to black-ball. He objects to the advancement of the candidate, and the latter is stopped. If the accusation is true he should be stopped permanently, and so an objection can stand. But if the accusation is proved false why should the candidate be compelled to suffer? It is not reasonable that he should suffer when his innocence is proven. We say the way should be opened for the withdrawal of an objection, and that when withdrawn the candidate's way should immediately become unimpeded."

He pauses at Maine to have a tilt with that infallible reviewer, Companion Drummond, who in an address delivered before the General Grand Chapter, said of Louisiana that its Grand Chapter "ceased to meet in 1831, and all its constituents went out of existence except Holland Chapter."

Companion Duncan retorts:

"This is thoroughly inaccurate, and shows the careless way in which the Companion deals with history, for year by year there is published in our Proceedings an 'Historical Table of Chapters' and the information therein contained could readily have been obtained by Comp. Drummond, if he had chosen to be an historian, and not a partizan of a theory There is Concorde Chapter, organized in 1811, a very live Chapter to-day to testify against him. Others of the constituency of that date, that he declares then went out of existence, lived for many years after. Perseverance, organized in 1811, did not go out of existence until 1873; Etoile Polaire (Polar Star), lived from 1813 to 1880, and Clinton lived from 1829 to 1888.

"Holland Chapter, whose continuance of existence he graciously concedes, had its name changed to Orleans in 1851 and to Orleans-Delta in 1885, and still flourishes.

"The writer hereof was made a Royal Arch Mason in one of the Chapters, whose existence is asserted to have ceased forty years previously. Such history (?) is curious."

Under Texas, he says:

"The Correspondence Committee think that our action in inviting a re-establishment of fraternal intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England might result in a 'little awkwardness,' should that Grand Body send us a representative who was a Mark Master only. We do not fear. He would be received in such place and such manner as was his due."

When we noted in a previous review that Louisiana had withdrawn an edict of non-intercourse with England, we were under the impression that the Grand Chapter of England was the body referred to. The above quotation, however, would lead one to infer that the ban was lifted from the Grand Mark Lodge. If this is the case, a little explanation is in order as, so far as our knowledge goes, the occasion for the issuance of the edict still exists. When some years ago, the Grand Mark Lodge planted Mark Lodges in the occupied territory of Quebec, the Grand Chapter of Quebec vainly protested, and its severance of fraternal relations was followed by those of the majority of Grand Chapters on this continent, including, we believe, the General Grand Chapter. The condition of affairs has not undergone any change. Quebec's protest is, now as it was then, ignored by the Grand Mark Lodge of England. Why then should the moral support accorded Quebec at the outset by the Grand Chapters of the United States be weakened now by the recent action of Louisiana, presuming of course that we have interpreted that action aright?

J. F. Pearson, New Orleans, Grand High Priest.
Richard Lambert, New Orleans, Grand Secretary.

Maryland.

Chapters .. 19. Members .. 1,924.

"It is a great pleasure to be able to record the fact that nothing has occurred to disturb the peace, harmony and fraternal union which cement us as members of the Royal Craft."

With these cheering words Grand High Priest William H. Martin opened his address to the Companions at the One Hundred and Second Annual Convocation at Baltimore, on the 14th November, 1899:

The Chapters were consistently visited by him and the Grand Lecturer, both reporting "good work."

Beyond a faithful report of duties faithfully performed there was little in the address to call for special mention.

The Grand Lecturer, who as of yore, was indefatigable in his office, thus reported:

"I think it is unnecessary to say any more than that all our Chapters are in better condition than when visited one year ago, and with the exception of a lack of ambition on the part of the Companions of two of them to study the Work and advance, all are doing remarkably well."

The demand that the chief officer of a Chapter be proficient in the work is carefully attended to in Maryland as gathered from the report of a Committee appointed to enquire into such:

"It is a subject of genuine regret that two Companions selected by their Chapters for the exalted station of High Priest have failed to qualify themselves for the duties of the office. It seems strange that Companions would not exert themselves to acquire the beautiful Ritual for conferring the Chapter degrees upon their less informed brethren, and the fact that such instances have occurred demonstrates the wisdom of the Grand Chapter's requirement that no High Priest shall be installed without the requisite qualification of proficiency."

There was nothing for the several committees to do. Virginia wired fraternal greetings, officers were elected and installed, and Grand Chapter was closed in an atmosphere of peace.

M. E. Comp. Schultz, whose loss of vision has been deplored throughout the Capitular world, is still the courteous and able correspondent though the report on the occasion is largely excerpt. In his preface he explains this.

"The Chairman of your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having yielded to the solicitations of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest to continue in the service in which he has been so long engaged, he has, with the aid of a reader and amanuensis, prepared a review of the later proceedings of the several Grand Chapters that he has received from the Grand Secretary.

"It seems but right and proper that the Companions of Maryland who labored so zealously to make those celebrations a success should know the estimation in which their efforts are held by the distinguished Companions of the various parts of the United States who were present on one or both of these occasions."

Commenting under Arkansas which remarked on the demise of over forty Chapters within its forty-eight years of existence he says:

"Our experience is that the yearly change and rotation of officers in our Masonic bodies is of a most hurtful character. It is a laudable ambition on the part of any brother to become Master or High Priest, but it should be clearly understood that to be qualified to fill acceptably these positions requires more than a mere capacity to recite the rituals."

He had Canada for 1898-99 under review, and quotes liberally from the Grand Z. and the correspondents.

Daniel T. Ordeman, Frederick, Grand High Priest.

George L. McCahan, Baltimore, Grand Secretary.

Massachusetts.

Chapters .. 75. Members .. 15,741.

An important volume is that which records the events of this Grand Chapter for the year 1900.

"A Special Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was held in Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, October 24th, A.D. 1899, A.·. I.·. 2429, at two o'clock, p.m., to celebrate with fitting ceremonials, the Centennial of the formation of this Grand Chapter, on the 13th of March, 1798, in this city."

Prior to this, however, Quarterly Convocations were held in March, June and September, at which much routine business was effected.

A motion presented at the June meeting to the effect that a Chapter be permitted to use a certified copy of its charter in lieu of the original was referred to a Committee which reported at the September Convocation.

"The preservation of the Charter of a Chapter is of paramount importance and any safeguard which shall ensure its safety cannot be too strongly emphasized. It is a custom of some Chapters to keep the original Charter in a place secure from fire or other casualties and to use a copy of the original for Chapter purposes. This custom your Committee strongly commends."

The Committee's recommendation that Chapters be authorized to use copies of their charter duly certified by the Grand Secretary was adopted with this proviso:

"Except on the occasion of the visitation of an officer of the Grand Chapter, or the installation of the officers of the Chapter, when the presence of the original charter shall be required."

A new Chapter was organized in the town of Winthrop and a dispensation was issued to the Companions.

Eloquent memorials to the late M. E. Comp. Seranus Bowen and R. E. Comp. Walter Melvin Wright, Grand Scribe, were presented at the September meeting.

The Centennial celebration in October was a memorable event and the story of it as set forth in the proceeding is of surpassing interest. Twenty-four Grand Chapters were represented, among whom were:

"Companion W. G. Reid, Grand Z. of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada.

"Companion Stephen R. Sircom, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the Province of Nova Scotia."

All these distinguished visitors were received with grand honours. The addresss of welcome by Past Grand High Priest Waterman was a happy effort. A few extracts will be enough to demonstrate this, though we would like to reproduce it in extenso.

"Owing to circumstances over which we had no control, this observance of our Centennial Anniversary did not take place at the expiration of our one hundredth year of existence in March of last year. Being necessarily postponed, the present time and place were fittingly chosen for the celebration. The date is appropriate, for it was on the 24th of October, one hundred and two years ago, that the General Grand Chapter of the United States was born in the town of Boston, and first saw the light in that staunch old home of Freemasonry and nursery of rebellion against British oppression, the Green Dragon Tavern. Oh, that the ancient hostelry were still in existence, that we might stand in the famous 'Long Room,' let imagination run riot, and picture to ourselves the meetings of St. Andrew's Lodge, the Committee of Safety, the Sons of Liberty, and the Boston Tea Party, for in that vision would stand out boldly and proudly the manly forms of many a fearless Freemason and member of this Grand Chapter in the early days."

"A steady stream of Master Masons has poured its strength into Royal Arch Masonry for a hundred years. Even the anti-Masonic excitement of seventy years ago checked but for a time our sturdy and vigorous growth. The genius of Freemasonry was stronger than the demon of anti-Masonry, and the Order, winnowed of its chaff, forged ahead with renewed ardor. Purified as by fire, 'the glory of the latter house was greater than the glory of the former."

"The singer is only a name, but his song is immortal. We shall

never know the author of the Holy Royal Arch, but his delightful work will never die."

"Let us not forget that as early as August, 1769, St. Andrew's Royal Arch Lodge was conferring the Degree of Knight Templar, and continued to do so for twenty-five years, and that thus the whole American system of the York Rite owes a debt of gratitude to Royal Arch Masonry, for it was the latter which brought the Templar Rite to this continent."

The historical address, delivered by M. E. Companion Warren B. Ellis, Grand High Priest, evinced much care in preparation. It was lengthy, but every line of interest.

"The need of a governing body for the Capitular Rite was recognized long before the establishment of this Grand Chapter. This statement is confirmed by the history of St. Andrew's Chapter, for that body had not completed the first year of its career, before it was obliged to look about for some authority by which its existence should be approved and confirmed. The circumstance which introduced this subject was an incident of the eventful period out of which grew our country's independence. The first Master and first Senior Warden of the Royal Arch Lodge were British soldiers and members of a company that was stationed in Boston for the purpose of protecting the royal interests. The presence of these foreign soldiers was a constant annoyance to the citizens and the cause of so much trouble that the acting governor was finally obliged to remove them from the town. The removal of the soldiers deprived the Lodge of its Master and Senior Warden and raised the question of its right of existence."

"In the dilemma created by the loss of its officers the brethren of the Royal Arch Lodge turned for advice to Joseph Warren, who was then Grand Master of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge and highest in 'Ancient Masonry.' By his advice their meetings were continued while he sought instruction from Scotland whether or not to grant them a Charter. As no Charter was received we may conclude that he was not successful in obtaining authority to do this work, or what is more probable, his time was so much occupied with public affairs that this business was neglected, for in July, 1771, 'a committee was chosen to write home to England to Brother DeMott,' and 'Brother Warren warned of the vote.' The Brother DeMott of this record was undoubtedly the famous Lawrence Dermott, who was then the leading spirit of the schismatic Grand Lodge of England and the most active promotor of the Royal Arch Degree. If any answer was received from Dermott it has not been preserved."

"No meeting of the Royal Arch Lodge was held during the period of the Revolutionary War nor for several years afterwards. When its meetings were resumed the brethren were indebted to the Lodge of St. Andrew for their 'politeness' in granting the use of their Charter, and its presence was supposed to make their meetings lawful. But a borrowed Charter was not satisfactory; the brethren were determined to find some authority which should establish their rights beyond question, and we notice that in the record of April 5, 1797, that it was 'their opinion that the only proper application for

a warrant should be to the Grand Holy Royal Arch of England,' and a committee was appointed 'to draught and forward a petition accordingly.'

"The Royal Arch Lodge of Boston was from its start entirely free from Lodge control and Lodge Ritual, and as such antedates all other Royal Arch Bodies in this country.

"The Degrees first known in this body were the Excellent, Super-Excellent, Royal Arch and Knight Templar. The Templar Degree was last mentioned November 5th, 1774, but the Excellent and Super-Excellent Degrees were retained until the Grand Chapter was established."

Minutely the Grand High Priest traced the formation and establishment of subsequent bodies until on March 13th, 1798, the Grand Chapter was instituted in the old Green Dragon tavern.

"This tavern will long be remembered as the home of several of the early Masonic bodies of Boston. It has also additional interest in the fact that it was most intimately associated with the events of the Revolutionary period. Its name and history will always be an inspiration of patriotism."

Its subsequent history as well as his researches into the original planting of the Royal Craft in other of the older State chains the attention and make us regret that lack of space compels only this brief reference to them.

The Grand High Priest then introduced M. E. Companion Drummond, of Maine, who speaking of the General Grand Chapter waxed reminiscent and gave, as might be expected, a most entertaining address, which he closed with these prophetic words:

"I trust and believe that those who shall live to see the next centennial come round will find the General Grand Chapter stronger than ever, and its banner waving over every Royal Arch Mason in this country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Lakes to the Gulf, and I do not despair that even our brethren of the Dominion of Canada will also be with us!"

Between the addresses an excellent choir contributed some choice selections, and Grand Chaplain Bush recited a Centennial poem of twenty verses, composed by himself. An elaborate banquet brought the celebration, which was in every respect a success, to a close. It cost Grand Chapter $1,577.

The Annual Convocation held on the 12th December, 1899, saw a large attendance.

Grand High Priest Ellis submitted an account of his stewardship, in which he congratulated the Companions on the prosperity attending their efforts but urged an increase in income. The Finance Committee recommended an Amendment to the Constitution by which five dollars instead of three be paid into Grand Chapter for every candidate advanced.

New Zealand's application for recognition was held over, pending action by the General Grand.

Companion J. Gilman Waite, the Grand Secretary, presents his second report on Correspondence and fraternally reviews Canada for 1899. To Grand Z. Walsh's reference to possible closer friendly relations between the U. S. and Great Britain he remarks in passing:

"When we read the following, it is with a consciousness of a suppressed smile playing over the countenance."

Why suppress it? Smile, dear Companion, and we'll smile with you. Yes, let us make our Masonic bonds as close and binding as we may, there is nothing unreasonable there. To expect the impossible is enough to provoke something more than a smile.

"Britain is
A world by itself; and we will nothing pay
For wearing our own noses!"

We have devoted so much space to the Centennial Celebration that it is with extreme reluctance we pass this able review so curtly. But we hope to meet again.

Warren B. Ellis, Boston, Grand High Priest.
J. Gilman Waite, Boston, Grand Secretary.

Michigan.

Chapters .. 132. Members .. 13,641.

On Tuesday, the 16th January, 1900, the Fifty-Second Annual Convocation was held as usual in the City of the Straits, with a very gratifying attendance.

Grand Chapter opened at noon and was called for a couple of hours to enable the Credentials Committee to complete its report. This it did on resumption of labor.

Nearly thirty pages of the Proceedings are devoted to Grand High Priest Frank N. Clark's address, nine of them to obituaries. He deplores the lack of words to give expression to his feelings but must have discovered a few somewhere:

"It becomes my honored privilege, in the capacity of Grand High Priest, to experience the unspeakable pleasure of extending to each Companion present, a brotherly welcome.

"My vocabulary has been ransacked, good authors have been consulted, and even in the intensity of goodly feeling that overwhelms me to-day, I fail to find words sufficiently expressive or adequately strong and beautiful to even approach doing justice to my profound appreciation.

"In tracing the origin of our Order, conceived and instituted in a spirit of vantage to the skilled members of the Craft, so ancient that it antedates the computation of time, and in contemplating its endurance and growth to its present sublime position of Speculative, Free and Accepted Masonry based upon the practice of social and moral virtue,—veneration stimulates the mind to renewed esteem, and the inevitable truth is conclusively portrayed that such a structure founded upon the principles of right and justice, must endure forever."

The passing of Past Grand High Priest Charles R. Bagg and Grand Master of the First Veil, Job T. Campbell, he alludes to feelingly. Another gap in the ranks was that of Companion George Henry Green, for twelve years an efficient member of the Finance Committee of Grand Chapter, and in 1898 and 1899, a member of the Committee on Correspondence.

A number of questions were put to him during the year, but none of any great importance inasmuch as they were answered by the laws of the jurisdiction on the peculiar phases of some of which we have taken, the liberty hitherto of expressing an opinion.

There were some cases of invasion of territory by Chapters which he adjusted, and on this subject he says:

"This matter of invading other territory by so slight a distance often arises innocently, usually being discovered after the petitioner has been elected and has received his degrees.

"One Excellent Companion, has, I think, suggested a way out of this difficulty, when he asks the Grand High Priest the following question: 'Do you know of any constitutional provision prohibiting two or more Chapters from entering into mutual agreement whereby said Chapters may hold concurrent jurisdiction over the brothers residing at a certain locality where the question of territorial jurisdiction is so finely drawn as to cause much confusion and discord, and where such an agreement would be in the interest of harmony?'

"If our constitution could be so amended as to provide for an equitable arrangement of territory by mutual agreement, I am quite sure that the Grand High Priest would be relieved of a good deal of embarrassment."

In the matter of demits the Michigan law is clear enough, yet the G. H. P. discovered that it was being violated.

"No demit shall be granted to a Companion while he is a resident of the jurisdiction of the Chapter to which he belongs, except for the purpose of organizing a new Chapter; provided a Companion having removed from the jurisdiction of his Chapter, and not under charges, nor in arrears for dues, may be granted a demit upon written application."

The Grand High Priest issued a circular of warning which he reproduces and adds:

"Some Chapters have granted demits because a Companion became 'disgruntled.' Now, Companions, this is not complying with our constitution, and I have grave doubts whether a Companion demited for such a reason should be treated as a demitted Companion."

Of such is Michigan. He granted a dispensation for a new Chapter at Durand and the bantling appears to be thriving, thirty-six petitions having been received in the interval.

The Companions at Marlette made application also and presented a strong case, but the nearest Chapter was obdurate and would not recommend.

A late application from Chelsea duly recommended, was approved, and with that from Durand was numbered among the chartered.

From the Grand Secretary's report the following is culled:

"The returns show that less work has been done in the Chapters than in the preceding year, there having been five hundred and seventeen exalted, which is exactly one hundred less than 1898. This

loss in work has been offset by an increase of thirty in the number admitted and a decrease of eighty-three in the number demitted."

From June to December the Grand Lecturer was a busy man and many Chapters benefitted by his presence. His report is very interesting.

The Committee on Obituaries contributed a report that embraces fourteen pages, and goes over similar ground to that taken by the G. H. P.

A jewel was presented to the retiring Chief Officer, and Grand Chapter having provided itself with a new set of aprons for its Grand Officers, the Grand High Priest was authorized to give the old set of aprons to some Chapter that, in his judgment, was in need of them, which, to say the least, was thoughtful of Grand Chapter. The Amended Constitution was adopted and the newly elected officers installed by "Our Hugh."

And there is no report on Correspondence nor even a line to explain the omission. True, Michigan has abolished the Representative System for reasons best known in that jurisdiction, but that surely would not justify the deprivation to the Companions of so important and instructive a feature as the annual review of the Grand Chapters. We sincerely hope that it will be resumed with the next Proceedings.

Reuben C. Webb, Detroit, Grand High Priest.
Jefferson S. Conover, Coldwater, Grand Secretary.

Minnesota.

Chapters .. 63. Members .. 5,255.

Fifty-five Chapters were represented at the Thirty-Ninth Annual Convocation, held at St. Paul on October 9, 1900. Grand High Priest Josiah Peck's address was a brief document. He pleaded guilty to four visits, one decision, and five special dispensations He authorized the establishment of two Chapters, U.D., one at Minneapolis and the other at Blue Earth. The latter, one hopes, is planted in fruitful soil.

The Grand Secretary reported a renewal of prosperity, the net gain for the year being 259.

Several petitions for relief were presented, including a motion to appropriate $100 for the relief of the Galveston Masonic sufferers.

The Grievances' Committee had nothing before them, and reported a universal peace.

The Committee on District Visitors recommended that those officers be allowed mileage and per diem for attending the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, provided they had faithfully performed the duties of their office, and that they do not draw same by virtue of being members of the Grand Chapter.

A Companion present moved to amend by abolishing the office, and requiring the duties to be performed by the Grand High Priest, but it was knocked out and the Committee's report was put to sleep on the table.

Relief was granted to one widow, $250, and to three Companions, two at $100 and one at $50. Nearly $1,000 was paid to cover mileage and per diem.

Canada's representative, Companion Andrew A. Swanstrom, was elected Grand High Priest, and we tender him hearty congratulations.

Companion Thos. Montgomery, the painstaking Grand Secretary, is also the Correspondent and the appendix to this volume is as crisp and readable as ever. He reviews Canada for 1900, and quotes the writer's views on dependent membership.

To Iowa's poetic hysterics on the suggestion that a brother was not ineligible for the Chapter degrees merely because a bar was attached to his hotel,

> "Ha! See where the wide blazing
> Grog-shop appears,
> As the red waves of wretchedness swell,
> How it burns on the edge of tempestuous years,
> The horrible light-house of Hell!"

Companion Montgomery's reply must have slaked the poet's fire.

"We hope his well-intended criticisms and admonition will be heeded. The Grand Lodge of Minnesota put itself on record in 1897 as opposed to the admission of saloonkeepers or bartenders, and lodges may lawfully discipline such as are now members unless they forsake

the said calling. Therefore such a brother would now be ineligible to petition for the Chapter degrees. Minnesota Masonry cannot afford to be tainted with any leaning towards a business or individual practice that would debase and degrade itself or its membership."

Andrew P. Swanstrom, St. Paul, Grand High Priest.
Thomas Montgomery, St. Paul, Grand Secretary.

Mississippi.

Chapters .. 46. Members .. 1,621.

Like Michigan this Grand Chapter has passed its fifty-second milestone. But there, so far as the records before us are concerned, the similarity ends. Grand High Priest Franklin contented himself with barely three pages of an address to the Annual Convocation at Meridian, on the 20th February, and five lines only were spared to "necrology."

"Too often a multiplicity of cares and duties have thwarted my designs for the furtherance of our order. However, I have done the best I could, and ask that you will throw around my mistakes the broad mantle of Masonic Charity."

And if that time-honored garment is not lying about handy, he offers a suggestion for something else

"That all future Grand High Priests be presented with a Signet Ring by the Grand Chapter, which may serve in some hour of gloom to cheer him as a reminder of the regard bestowed upon him in days past by his fellow craftsmen, and in moments of temptation, of vows that came from an honest heart."

Surely absolution in its fullest sense may be safely bestowed in that quarter. But the conviction of having done the best he could must abide with and comfort him in the future, for an unsympathetic Committee cruelly sat upon his hopes of a signet ring.

Of the industry and zeal of the Grand Lecturer, the Grand Secretary thus incidentally remarks in his report:

"From the four quarterly reports of Companion Spinks, it appears that he exalted fifty-nine classes, traveled 10,883 miles by rail, and 637 by dirt road; and that his expenses amounted to $435.28; so that while his compensation, $666.66 for Grand Chapter and Grand Council, is a heavy draft on the small income of those bodies, he is not

likely to become a millionaire at the business. In addition to the revival of Chapters, and exalting of classes, Companion Spinks has visited and lectured several Chapters, and dispensed the light of Capitular Masonry where its rays have hitherto seldom penetrated."

A new Chapter at Poplarville was instituted and received its charter. The charter of that at Waterford was declared forfeited.

The business before Grand Chapter was of the lightest character and the record of proceedings is summed up in sixteen pages.

M. E. Companion P. M. Savery we were glad to observe again signs the Correspondence report and fraternally reviews Canada for 1899.

Under Delaware he says:

"We agree with him in holding that Canada did a wise act in eliminating the Past Master degree. This may be treason to the law of the General Grand, but it is our opinion, nevertheless."

Nolan Stewart, Jackson, Grand High Priest.

J. L. Power, Jackson, Grand Secretary.

Missouri.

Chapters .. 98. Members .. 7,157.

Despite the fact that the Grand High Priest was absent when Grand Chapter met at Kansas City on April 25th, 1900, the Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was opened in "Ample" form, the Deputy Grand High Priest presiding.

Press of business detained the Chief Officer elsewhere, but his address prepared by him was delivered by his locum tenens. He congratulated the Royal Craft on a season of peace and prosperity and referred the Companions to the table of statistics furnished by the Grand Secretary in support of his claim. That painstaking officer reported a net gain in the membership of 232.

Two only of the Chapters failed to send in their returns and dues on time, a creditable showing.

He was asked if a Companion could have his objection to a visiting Companion recorded on the

minutes of his Chapter and so made permanent. He replied that the objection was only operative when the objector was present.

He also decided that an artificial leg was not a barrier and in this he was sustained by Grand Chapter.

The report of the Masonic Home at St. Louis showed that it was caring for one hundred and twenty-one inmates, 22 old men, 23 old ladies, 50 girls and 26 boys. The financial condition of the institution appears to be all right.

Three Past Grand High Priests had passed away during the year, viz., M. E. Comps. James Brewster Austin, Alvin Haynie and Lee A. Hall. Their virtues are enshrined in the report of the Committee on Necrology.

"The Ark and its Symbolism" was the subject of an excellent address by Grand Chaplain William P. George, D.D.

Grand Secretary Mayo submits his twenty-first report on Correspondence and must prove entertaining for the Companions of Missouri. It is largely extract but of the instructive kind. Under Canada he quotes approvingly Grand Z. Walsh on the minimum fee,

Concluding he says:

"We are now of lawful age as a correspondent, and our hope is that we are at least under the tongue of good repute among our Brethren and Companions wherever dispersed around the globe who have read our reports and writings during the past twenty odd years. Now that we have attained this important epoch in our life and labors, we are inclined to *stop* and *think;* not so much as to what are our powers and prerogatives, but what are our duties, because duty is with us always. How best to discharge our duty towards our fellow-man, in order that both he and we may be happier and better, is what concerns us far more than powers and prerogatives.

"True Freemasonry in all its branches is fully abreast the times in advancement, improvement, progress and evolution for the betterment of mankind."

Arthur M. Hough, Jefferson City, Grand High Priest.

Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

Nebraska.

Chapters . . 53. Members . . 2900.

A net loss of 19 in the membership, making the third year consecutively that the returns showed a falling off, and yet Nebraska is doing well.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Omaha on December 13, 1899. M. E. Comp. J. J. Mercer, presided. The place of the Grand Secretary was also no longer filled by him who for many years was looked up to as an authority. The death of William Roberts Bowen, under distressing circumstances in the previous January, came as a shock to the craft generally. He was Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery for nearly thirty years, and was thus in close touch with the fraternity throughout, as one brother said:

"Wherever and whenever Masonry in Nebraska is studied, there his handiwork will appear. The student of the history of Masonry in this grand jurisdiction will always be reminded of his faithfulness, his fortitude, and his courage. The precision which characterizes his labors on the printed page is but an index of what his inner and real life was. His work will be read by those who follow after. As time speeds on, and his works are consulted, the value of his labors to Masonry will be better known and better understood. He will be affectionately remembered as long as one of his personal associates and co-laborers remains upon earth. His character will be recognized, and, I trust, will be modeled and patterned after by those who may follow. Earnest, exact, at times somewhat stern, but generally right, he followed his convictions. He adhered to that which he believed to be right, and no unworthy motive could induce him to deviate from the true line."

The Grand High Priest paid loving tribute to the industry and zeal of the late Grand Secretary and to them attributed the high standing of the Craft in the jurisdiction.

On the question of Grand Representative he urged the three year system and the necessity for punctual attendance at the Convocation of Grand Chapter with a penalty of forfeiture of the commission for non-compliance.

"Either do this or abolish the system entirely, for as it is now conducted, it is of no practical benefit and is an expense in the way of furnishing proceeding, notices, postage, etc."

Among his decisions is the following:

"I decided that when a brother had taken the degree of Mark Master and been absent five years on business, a new ballot was not necessary; it would, however, be necessary for the brother to be examined as to his proficiency, and a ballot taken thereon."

After a careful survey of the above from all positions we reluctantly come to the conclusion to "give it up." The committee to which it was referred were apparently in similar perplexity, for they struck out the last five words.

He issued a dispensation to permit two brethren who desired to become knightly pilgrims to receive the degrees on the rush order, but he did so reluctantly.

"While admitting that such power is vested in the Grand High Priest, I believe it is not the right way to make Royal Arch Masons.

"The sublime principle contained in our work should be given with deliberation and care. The candidate is entitled to receive the degrees in due form, and by advancing him with undue haste, the Chapter is deprived of the necessary time to prepare to give the degrees in the sublime manner requisite.

"Again, at times, it deprives members of the right to object to the admission of applicants whom they might consider unworthy.

"The Grand Chapter having fixed a fee of $10.00 for each dispensation to confer the degrees out of the regular way, in my judgment, has done so, not as a source of revenue, but to prohibit as much as possible, the making of Royal Arch Masons on the hurry up plan."

The G. H. P. concluded a good practical address by submitting a number of well thought out recommendations for the better superintendence of the Chapters.

M. E. Comp. French as Grand Lecturer presented a statement of his experiences as a Visitor and the report exhibits him as one whose heart was in his work. His words deserve the highest consideration of his Companions.

"In conclusion permit me to ask whether the most valuable institutions are not sometimes neglected by the fraternity to the undue advantage of those less important. This certainly is a question which needs explanation, perhaps argument, and may be susceptible of refutation.

"Among the needs of the craft is that of giving the novice an understanding knowledge of rite and ceremony, without which such knowledge is in many ways meaningless. A cumbersome and expensive system has been evolved in many jurisdictions, the sole end and aim of which is word perfection, this is rightly enjoined but is it not gained at too great sacrifice. However much those teachers of words

may know of the inner meanings of ceremonies or symbology of the society and genesis of the institution, they go no farther than the glib rote which sounds so beautiful but which is strangely unsatisfactory ; and yet the constantly recurring inquiry of the young craftsman is for 'more light.'

"He is taught that Masonry is a system of morals and philosophy, yet the exposition is lacking. He wonders if the exoteric teaching, (for it is largely exoteric though repeated within tyled doors) comprises the sum and substance of the mysteries, and when dimly perceiving there are hidden and unexplained depths of meaning and information, unless previous study should have fitted him for the peculiar research necessary, and the sources of information are readily placed within his reach, the early enthusiasm dies away and indifference follows."

The M. E. Companion, it may be remarked, declined to accept a Past Grand High Priest's jewel, which with others authorized by resolution of Grand Chapter, was manufactured for him and Companions of similar rank. The Grand High Priest has said in his address:

"Suggestion was made to me, by others, to use the fund in some other way that might be acceptable to Companion French, but as the Grand Chapter had previously given a like sum to our Most Excellent Companion, to be expended in charity, and as this appropriation was made for a specific purpose, I decided that it could be used only for the purpose of a Past Grand High Priest's jewel. I did not feel like urging Companion French to do something against his convictions of right, and now refer the entire matter to the Grand Chapter, for such further action as may be deemed necessary."

But what Grand Chapter did in the premises deponent sayeth not.

M. E. Comp. Phelps is of course the Correspondent, and had Canada for 1899 under his critical eye. Observing that the Grand Z. had issued a dispensation to a Chapter, to attend Divine Service wearing regalia, he asks, "We wonder if the *regalia* included robes"?

No, Companion, it did not. The regalia of a Royal Arch Companion is that with which he is invested at his exaltation and embraces apron, sash and jewel. The robes are used to distinguish certain officers during the progress of the ceremony of conferring the degree and are never donned anywhere else or under any other circumstances.

He quotes generously from the writer, and his review generally is one to be emulated for its tone of kindliness and courtesy.

James Dinsmore, Hebron, Grand High Priest.

Francis E. White, Plattsmouth, Grand Secretary.

Nevada.

Chapters .. 7. Members .. 292.

A slight loss in membership is explained by the fact that but nineteen Companions of a Chapter that had in the interval given up the ghost, had allied themselves with another Chapter in the near vicinity.

Grand High Priest A. O. Percy addressed the Companions assembled in Twenty-seventh Annual Convocation on 11th June, 1900, at Virginia City.

"We meet to-day under the shadow of Mount Davidson, within a stone's throw of the place where the first pick was struck on the great Comstock Lode, which has contributed its hundreds of millions to the world's wealth, and which, as if by magic, spoke into existence a city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants. It was here that this Grand Chapter was organized, November 20, 1873."

Among those to whose virtues while in life he paid tribute was Past Grand High Priest Thomas Alex. Menary, who died in California in the previous April.

He admitted to a record of three visitations, and of two of them he remarked:

"After the business of the Chapter was completed Companion High Priest Murphy proclaimed the Companions free from restraint, when a pleasant hour was enjoyed, in an interchange of ideas, and free conversation when the Chapter was closed in Ample Form.

"The regular business of the Chapter, which included the reception and reference of nine petitions for the Degrees, having been transacted, the Chapter was closed in Ample Form."

"Ample" enough to satisfy the most exacting. His inability to amply satisfy the requirements of his high office he thus explains:

"My occupation (miner in the lower levels of the Comstock) is such, that of necessity, I have been denied the great pleasure it would have afforded me to have visited each and every one of our Subordinate Chapters."

And in the solitude of those cavernous recesses far removed from the madding crowd, he was enabled to think out a number of decisions made by predecessors and approved at former convocations and suggest improvements thereto. He also recommended that lists

of delinquents be furnished by the constituent Chapters to the recorders of the Knight Templar Commanderies.

"Templarism being a co-ordinate branch of Masonry, the membership of which being dependent upon the standing of its members in Lodge and Chapter, I deem it just that this information should be given."

Equal probably because its membership is drawn from the ranks of Capitular Masonry, but its being an equal "branch of Masonry" is, to this skeptic, open to a shadow of doubt, and we have been a Templar for many years.

The funds apparently were at a low ebb, and indeed considering the small membership, it is wonderful what vitality Nevada can exhibit. A special assessment of fifty cents per capita was recommended by the G. H. P

Companion Bird, introducing his excellent review of the Grand Chapters, says:

"Your Committee on Correspondence, through you to the Companions of Nevada, each acting as Master Overseer, present our fourth work in the Quarries. Our Mark is upon it, you will find it at the close. The initials on the Keystone we would interpret for you thus: Herein Thou Will Surely See Thy Kinsman's Sentiments. May the work meet your approval and we receive the response: 'It is such work as I am willing to receive, work entitling you to wages. Pass on.'"

There should not be a solitary dissentient to that response in all Nevada.

To Canada for 1899 and 1900, he is generous and kind:

"In such a grand jurisdiction there is, of necessity, much business, but reports are all ready and everything goes running as smoothly and quickly as a new chainless bike."

Referring to the proposition to restore the minimum fee, he hazards a suggestion that is perhaps a little hasty:

"Worked all right at first to gather in a little gold (hard work not to say silver, Companion Terrell of Texas) but you cannot sell goods below cost and escape the Board of Trade."

A brief glance at Canada's financial condition as revealed by the report of the Grand Treasurer would

have stayed Companion Bird's hand ere he penned those words. The action was influenced by no such mercenary motive. In the period when it was suggested, this country, like another contiguous, was passing through a period of depression and the rural Chapters experienced its effect, as did everything else. It was solely to encourage them in maintaining their activity that the proposition was made and acted upon. There were many, however, the writer included, who deprecated the change and foresaw future difficulty.

Closing his sprightly report Companion Bird says:

"There is no new question of importance in the Masonic world, though some of the old questions continue to be of interest. More or less of the papers presented are overflowing with patriotic references to the late war for humanity. And we catch glimpses of the coming question which is to divide the parties of the country—expansion or non-expansion. Some of our enthusiastic fellow citizens of the former class seem to be indulging in dreams equal to that of the enthusiastic American citizen at a dinner party about the period of the close of the civil war, who, looking at the future, proposed the toast—'The United States—bounded on the north by the aurora borealis, on the south by the procession of the equinoxes, on the east by primeval chaos, and on the west by the day of judgment.'"

M. A. Murphy, Carson City, Grand High Priest.
C. N. Noteware, Carson City, Grand Secretary.

New Hampshire.

Chapters .. 25 Members .. 3,646

In its Eighty-second year this Grand Chapter has but (26) constituents, but nearly all of respectable strength and solidity. There are two with a membership of 300 or over, four of 200 and less than 300, nine over 100 and less than 200, and seven less than 100 but over 50. All this goes to show that in New Hampshire there is a praiseworthy absence of any desire to multiply Chapters.

"The subordinate Chapters have experienced a healthy growth, and so far as I know there are no troubles or dissensions among them."

In this happy vein did M. E. Companion Charles H. Webster greet the Companions in the appropriately

named City of Concord, on the occasion of the Eighty-first Annual Convocation which met on May 15th, 1900.

"Owing to the inability of the Grand Secretary to perform the duties of his office," he appointed E.·. Companion Frank D. Woodbury, Acting Grand Secretary. This was subsequently confirmed by Grand Chapter. In January he issued a circular. Herewith are a few of the clauses:

"'Sec. 40. Every High Priest shall see that the degrees are conferred with full ceremonies, without additions, and in due solemnity, avoiding all trifling or levity, and he shall be held responsible for the conduct of his Chapter on all such occasions.'

"'Sec. 43. Every High Priest, in conferring the degree of Past Master, shall restrict the same to the narrowest constitutional limit,' &c.

"The objectionable features introduced in conferring certain degrees in some of the Chapters must be omitted, as they will be no longer tolerated by the Grand Chapter, and it is hereby ordered that this be done, also that all material or paraphernalia now or heretofore in use in your Chapter, which if used may be at all dangerous to life or limb, shall be immediately removed from the Masonic apartments, and be no longer used.

"Nothing herein is intended to refer to the historical or explanatory lecture given in some Chapters by the Prin. Soj. in the R.·. A.·. degree."

Even in staid old New Hampshire it appears that the "boys will be boys." But why should not a certain "historical or explanatory lecture" be given in *all* the Chapters. If it is of value it ought not to be confined to a few.

In February, at Nashua, a special Convocation was held for the purpose of exemplifying the ritual and the attendance was very gratifying. There were present 36 Past High Priests from 11 Chapters; 14 Representatives of Grand Chapters, and 43 officers representing 17 Chapters. There were 167 present from New Hampshire Chapters, two from Vermont, two from Maine, two from Massachusetts and one from New York. It is hoped that the Chapter having in charge the R. A. degree was one of those that included the Principal Sojourner's explanatory lecture.

This Grand Chapter, too, has permitted its expenditure to run a neck-and-neck race with its revenue:

"The large expenditures of a few years ago left the treasury in such condition that there has been hardly money enough at times to meet the necessary bills.

"I suggest that the Finance Committee consider the advisability of raising the per capita tax, for a year or two, until there shall accumulate a suitable sum."

The Grand High Priest and his principal officers did some zealous visiting, with doubtless good results.

M. E. Companion Albert S. Wait submits an able and exhaustive report on Correspondence, Canada for 1900 receiving four of its pages, and most of his space he devotes to the reviewer:

"Companion Bennett is not in sympathy with the dependent membership requirement of that (Georgia) and some other jurisdictions of the United States, and his observations upon the subject are worthy the attention of the thoughtful student of the fundamental principles of the Masonic fraternity.

"Companion Bennett's reference to New Hampshire is to our proceedings for the years 1898 and 1899, and the comments are throughout fraternal and courteous. He returns to the discussion relating to the Eastern Star, and, referring to our suggestion that 'if he proposes to censure Companions for thinking otherwise' than himself, 'he is justly bound to show some substantial ground for his assumption,' our Companion produces the following from the Constitution of his Grand Chapter, which he says he discovered thirty years ago when he first perused its clauses:"

Companion Wait then quotes the Constitutional clause, which provides that a lodge room shall not be "used jointly with other societies, or for other than Masonic purposes," and then proceeds:

"His 'substantial ground' thus appears to be a mere local statute, which is binding upon the Companions within the jurisdiction of Canada, but not in force elsewhere. This does not convince us that it is Masonically unlawful or improper to allow a Chapter of the Eastern Star to occupy a Masonic hall for the purposes of its meetings. The prohibitive regulation may be a very proper one where actually adopted, but it is quite another question whether it is founded upon the landmarks, or any necessary rule of Masonry, and we are quite satisfied that it is not, but on the contrary that it is in Masonry a very modern idea. The ritual, in both the Entered Apprentice and Master Mason degree, shows plainly the contrary, and it is familiar history in the Masonry of England, and of this country, that down to a very late period both Lodges and Grand Lodges held their meetings in taverns

and places of public resort. In later times the idea has become much disseminated, that Lodges should be provided with meeting places devoted to Masonic purposes. We are in entire sympathy with this sentiment. We do not, however, think the requirement is a necessary one in Masonry, but rather that it is to be upheld upon motives prudential in their nature rather than any inherent principles of the Masonic institution. Now the wives, widows and daughters of Masons are recognized both by the rituals and constitutions of the fraternity as standing in reciprocal relations to the fraternity as well understood as is anything else in Masonry. It is true they are not, and cannot be, Masons, but what we say of their relations to Masonry is nevertheless true. We do not insist, wherever the Craft is averse to it, that it should be required to allow these Eastern Star bodies to occupy the Masonic halls for the purposes of their meetings, but where the sentiment is otherwise, we see nothing in Masonry to forbid such occupancy. We go one step further, and say, that it seems to us an unwarranted sentiment, as well as a narrow policy, which dictates the refusal to them of such an act of kindly courtesy.

"Companion Bennett is fraternal and kind throughout in his comments upon New Hampshire's transactions and utterances which it gives us pleasure to recognize, and which we trust he will think it our intention to reciprocate."

Later on, under Nebraska, and on a similar subject, he works in this affectionate tribute:

"Companion Phelps is apparently a little restive under our allusion to one of his Chapters calling off in order to receive the officers of an Eastern Star Chapter, and copies with evident satisfaction the to us seeming vagaries of Companion Bennett, of Canada, in what assumes to be a reply."

The "vagaries," as he fraternally dubs our opinions, were not born of a local statute. The same law applies in England, Ireland and Scotland, and where the English language is spoken other than the United States. We speak from experience and on the same authority can confidently state that where apartments were in the old land secured for the fraternity under the roof of a tavern, those rooms were closed to all else. In the pioneer days of this and the neighbouring country, it was not infrequent to find the Masonic lodge room used on week days as a school room and on Sundays accommodating those who assembled to worship God. The exigencies of the time necessitated this, just as in the days of the travelling warrants, naval and military, the most convenient, and not often very retired, place was utilized. We do not agree with Companion Wait, how-

ever, that in Masonry the exclusiveness of the Craft is "a very modern idea," especially in the lands whence we all came. As to the claim that the female relatives possess certain rights there can be no question, but that one of them is the right to assemble as an organization in a consecrated Masonic lodge room must remain open to discussion. Why have dedicating services at all? Why have Masonic Temples? There are in all large towns and cities society halls that might be had at a far less expense. The opening of Masonic apartments to the outside world may have commenced with the kindly disposition of the Craftsman to the female relative. Where will it end? Here is an extract from a recent number of "The Tyler," which we commend to Companion Wait's kindly and courteous consideration:

"What would our Texas brother think of a sandwich of ritual and vaudeville? It seems incredible, does it not? And yet we read of an 'unusually fine vaudeville entertainment' being given at a communication of St. Cecile Lodge in Brooklyn, N. Y. 'The talent appeared between the sections of the first degree.' How deeply impressed the candidate must have been with the solemnity and dignity of the Lodge and the beauties of Masonry!"

Franklin A. Rawson, Newport, Grand High Priest.
Frank D. Woodbury, Concord, Grand Secretary.

New Brunswick.

Chapters .. 7. Members .. 458.

M. E. Companion John A. Watson, Grand High Priest, welcomed the Chapter delegates to the Thirteenth Annual Convocation, held at Saint John, August 29, 1900. His address if not voluminous was practical.

Noting the death of Captain Harrison, in South Africa, he said:

"*Decus est pro patriae mori.* It is the first time that in our grand jurisdiction we have been called upon to mourn for those who have given up their lives for their country. But I feel that it is my sad duty to make a reference to our late Companion Charles F. Harrison, who, on the 10th day of June, died fighting for Queen and country on the burning sands of the South African veldt. Captain Harrison, R C.A., was a distinguished member of our fraternity in this province. His genial disposition and kindness of heart had endeared him to all

who had the privilege of knowing him. He was born in the City of St. John, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He was a Past Master of the Union Lodge of Portland, member of Carleton Royal Arch Chapter, St. John Council Royal and Select Masters, the Encampment of St. John Knights Templar, and in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite he had attained the Thirty-Second Degree."

Another interesting personage who had obeyed the summons, was the veteran M. E. Companion Chas. E. Raymond, who died in the ninety-third year of his age. He was active in the Craft when the fading generation was in swaddling clothes.

He issued a dispensation for a new Chapter to the Companions resident at Sussex, Kings County, and in the interval had visited them and witnessed their working. He cordially recommended a charter which was subsequently granted.

He acknowledged his appointment as the Representative of New Zealand, and would have attended the centennial festivities at Boston but for sudden illness.

The Grand Secretary's report showed a net gain of four during the year.

The Treasurer's report exhibited a balance of $376.55.

The following is from the report of the Executive:

"It will be remembered that the question as to numbering our warrants has received the serious consideration of leading companions of Grand Chapter. I have myself carefully considered of this whole matter, and have come to the conclusion that it would be more convenient and for the best interest of Grand Chapter that an order issue directing our Grand Secretary to have all the warrants of the obedience to this jurisdiction numbered consecutively, according to the date of the original warrant of the respective Chapters, no matter of what jurisdiction. It seems that we are fortified in the conclusion by the course adopted by the Encampment of Knights Templars of St. John, holding under warrant from Scotland, as it, when coming under warrant from the Sovereign Great Priory of Canada, was cheerfully given date and rank, to which it was entitled by its many years of active work in the true interest of our chivalric order in Canada, and this body is now known as No. 3a on the Grand Priory register."

The matter of uniformity of ritual is still troubling this jurisdiction, and a committee appointed for the purpose, was empowered to go over the ritual with a

view to its illustration and exemplification before final adoption.

There is no report on Correspondence.

John A. Watson, St. John, Grand High Priest.

Wm. B. Wallace, Q.C., St. John, Grand Secretary.

New Jersey.

Chapters .. 38. Members .. 3,483.

With prayer the Forty-fourth Annual Convocation was opened, at Trenton, on the morning of May 4, 1899.

M. E. Comp. Levi G. Bliss, Grand High Priest, congratulated the Companions upon a year of peace, harmony and prosperity.

Among those in the record of those gone before was Past Grand High Priest James H. Durand.

The usual interchange of waivers of jurisdiction with neighbouring States is chronicled.

"A waiver of jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, in favor of Three-Times-Three Chapter, No. 5, over Brother John E. Carter, residing in Buckmanville, Pa, was declined, for the reason that Brother Carter has not 'passed the chair' in the Lodge of which he is a member."

That New Jersey suffers from the non-affiliate affliction as in other jurisdictions is gathered from the following:

"The number of applications for certificates to replace lost demits, made in the interest of the Companions who by their own acts have been demitted for a period of from ten to thirty years, demands careful consideration. The cases presented do not seem to be in strict conformity with Decision No. 54. This, together with the length of time the applicants have remained unaffiliated, leads me to believe that they have very little love for Capitular Masonry."

The visitations by Grand officers were faithfully carried out and with benefit to the visited. Companion Thomas H. R. Redway, Past Grand High Priest, delivered a characteristic address upon the Influence of

Masonry. In his conclusion he made special reference to the Grand Secretary, the years of faithful and intelligent service of Companion George B. Edwards, his zeal and fidelity for the institution, regard and appreciation of its tenets and symbolisms. Continuing, he assured Companion Edwards that he had longed for the present opportunity to give this expression of general opinion of the estimable qualities that had endeared him to the Craft. They, in loving appreciation of his Masonic influence, exemplified by many kindly acts and valuable services rendered, desired him to accept a testimonial of their esteem and fraternal regard.

At this time a table was placed by the side of Companion Edwards on which was a silver loving-cup of chaste design and an oak chest containing seven dozen pieces of silver table ware.

The chronicler adds: "The surprise was complete and, overcome by emotion, the usually fluent utterance of the recipient was for a time inoperative. Regaining his composure, suitable acknowledgments were made, and subsequently, in a more convenient place, the cup was filled and passed among the Companions, each offering a toast of cheer and expressions of good wishes for the veteran recipient."

A photogravure of the cup is given with the Proceedings.

The Grand Chapter of New Mexico was accorded recognition.

The High Priest of one of two Chapters which enjoyed a dispute over a question of invasion of jurisdiction, failed to reply to the communications addressed to him by the Grand High Priest, and the discourtesy was thus referred to by the Grievances Committee in their report on the matter.

"It deserves severe censure by this Grand Chapter, but in the judgment of your committee, the very discourteous act of the High Priest was due more to carelessness, incompetency and neglect than for any intended disrespect to this Grand Chapter. We would further report that the inability of the High Priest to appear before this committee in answer to the summons issued by the Grand Secretary, for which a good and sufficient reason has been presented to your com-

mittee, makes it impossible for them to make a complete and satisfactory report upon the matter of contempt. We would therefore recommend the final adjudication to the incoming Grand High Priest, with power."

Companion Edwards retired from the Correspondence table and the vacancy is filled by Companion Chas. Belcher. His reference to the services of his predecessor will find a responsive echo everywhere.

The retirement of the Chairman of the Committee from the post of honor is to us a matter of sincere regret, and doubtless will be to his friends, who for years past have looked forward to and read with pleasure and profit, his interesting productions.

He adopted the plan of putting the name of the Grand Representative of New Jersey at the head of each review recording their presence or absence.

"The position is an honorable one, and the incumbent who does not appreciate the appointment sufficiently to present himself at the Annual Convocations should be removed, and more faithful and appreciative Companions selected. The trouble arises, in many cases, from the appointment of personal friends without reference to their active interest either in Grand or subordinate Chapters. The remedy is of easy attainment."

Under Arkansas he notices a recent enactment.

"Hereafter dealers in intoxicating liquors are ostracized from Capitular privileges. Is the idea Utopian, that at no distant day the consumer may be placed under the same ban, and prohibition usurp the place of temperance among the cardinal virtues?"

Canada for 1899 is kindly reviewed. Of this report he says:

"It is by Companion George J. Bennett, and covers are view of the Proceedings of forty-five jurisdictions, including the General Grand Chapter for 1897. It is written in a style peculiarly his own, pungent and entertaining. He is positive in his opinions and ready at all times to assert them; is opposed to Georgia's extreme penalty for non-payment of dues; apparently is not impressed with the utility of the Eastern Star organization; and in regard to the action of Alabama in the conferring of degrees upon ministers without fee, he says:"

He then reproduces our remarks and adds, "To all of which we reverently say, Amen!"

To him of Indian Territory who is very pronounced on the question of total abstinence he says:

"On one subject he is distinctly and essentially radical; we feel safe in saying too radical; that is prohibition. Temperance is lost sight of. But don't you think, Companion Morrow, that when so many of your good friends are pleased to look upon 'the wine that is red' that it is a trifle hard for you to object, especially when they place no restrictions on you as to your use of water?"

It is an admirable report throughout and the Companions of New Jersey may be congratulated in securing so worthy a successor to the veteran who has retired.

George C. Woolson, Passaic, Grand High Priest.

George B. Edwards, Jersey City, Grand Secretary.

New York.

Chapters .. 188. Members .. 21,223.

At the Masonic Temple, on the north-west corner of Maiden Lane and Lodge Street, Albany, commencing on Tuesday, February 6th, 1900, the One Hundred and Third Annual Convocation was opened by M. E. Companion John W. Palmer, Grand High Priest, with a large attendance.

A lengthy and thoughtful address was delivered in which the story of an active year was entertainingly narrated, but little of importance to interest the outside.

Forty-nine Chapters were visited officially. The net increase in membership was reported as 678. The Grand Secretary also stated that there was a decrease of 75 in the number of suspensions for the non-payment of dues—"a most gratifying result, which it is hoped may be repeated again and again in a corresponding ratio, until that blight on the otherwise fair fame of the Royal Craft shall wholly disappear."

For the pessimist, and he is numerous, the following extract is submitted:

"The Chapter returns for the past year furnish conclusive evidence of a returning prosperity, general throughout the jurisdiction, and with the result that the material interests, both numerical and financial, not only of the constituent Chapters, but of the Grand Chapter itself, show a marked improvement, as compared with like results of the work of the past five or six years."

Two charters were issued to Chapters working U. D. at Suffern and Northport.

"The Less Noticed Things of Freemasonry" was the subject of an admirable address by the Grand Chaplain Rev. Jas Byron Murray.

Companion Gardner, the veteran Correspondent, is again the reviewer as we trust he will be for many years to come. To Canada for 1899, he gives two pages and quotes freely from the Grand Z for whose patronymic he expresses some solicitude.

"This report is signed 'M. WALSH, Grand Z.·.' We can imagine to how many christian names 'M.' would apply, but after diligent search through the volume have not been able to find what to affix in this instance.

"The Grand Superintendent's reports, occupying over fifty pages, abound with interesting matter as to what has been accomplished in that extensive jurisdiction. We could extract many items of profit and instruction did our space permit, but, like many other good things, we must give them the 'go by.'

"The permanent assets of the Grand Chapter amount to $21,556 —a handsome 'nest egg.'"

He quotes R. E. Companion Shepley's letter of retirement, prefixing it with the following remarks:

"It is quite customary in many branches of the Craft for members to accept offices with no probability of faithfully discharging the duties incident thereto, but often as 'stepping stones' to something higher. This feature is properly treated in the following communication, and may serve as a guide for others under like circumstances."

Referring to Canada's grants for benevolence he says:

"One duty is performed by that Grand Chapter which has become almost obsolete in nearly all others, especially in the 'States' —that of bestowing benevolence. Twenty cases were presented and provided for, the sum aggregating about $400. A suitable testimonial was voted to the retiring Grand Z.·., M. (?) WALSH."

"Tell it not in Gath nor whisper it in the streets of Syracuse," the name is "Michael." He is not familiarly known as "Mike," but the bare suspicion that he might at any time be recognized as a "Mick" led him to modestly conceal his identity under an initial. We trust that this little explanation, which is imparted in strict confidence, will serve to allay somewhat the spirit

of anxious curiosity which is by no means confined to Companion Gardner.

Under Vermont he comments on an evil which is surely doing its work in assisting to thin the attendance at Chapters.

"This is a growing evil of the times, upheld by the tardiness of social entertainments and public exhibitions rarely commencing at the time set, thereby encouraging others to believe that if they reach the hall from fifteen to thirty minutes after the time appointed, they fill the bill. At this rate 'low twelve' will ere long be the established time of gathering."

Joseph A. Crane, Rochester, Grand High Priest.
Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, Grand Secretary.

North Carolina.

Chapters .. 19. Members .. 787.

In the City of Charlotte, on the 12th June, 1900, the Fifty-second Annual Convocation was opened at 8 o'clock in the evening.

There was no rhetorical beating about the bush in the address of the Grand High Priest, but with the following introductory he goes straight to business:

"I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report from the records of this office for the year 1899-1900:"

He then gives two and a half pages to the Fraternal Dead, and in another page and a half embraces his official acts under Grand Representatives, "Dispensations" and "Finances." His valedictory is about as brief as the exordium and includes an appreciative word for the Grand Secretary's services.

Under "Finances" he had this to say:

"The condition of the treasury was such as to render null any appointments for visitations by members of the Grand Council.

"In this connection I wish to renew the recommendation of my predecessor as to an increase of per capita dues of Subordinate Chapters. It is imperative that immediate provision be made for meeting necessary expenses. The importance of official visitations can scarcely be overestimated. Activities of Chapter life are stimulated, and benefits at once apparent are thereby secured. The absence from

our published proceedings of the interesting and valuable reviews of M. E. Companion James Southgate, Correspondent, is obviously of detriment to the Grand Jurisdiction, and this loss is directly attributable to the lack of funds."

The Grand Lecturer did some beneficial visiting and in his report suggests a probable cause for apparent apathy.

"I found the Companions anxious to learn the authorized work of the Grand Chapter about which they knew comparatively little."

The Grand Secretary, winding up his report, announced "that, after so many years, the Grand Chapter is out of debt, a situation unknown before since I became a member thereof," and added, with reference to his election to the position,

"I supposed it was only temporary, but it has been your pleasure to honor me again and again till eight years have been numbered with the past. I am conscious that the time has come for a change. I am past the age allotted to man, am getting into the 'sere and yellow leaf,' and feel that a younger and more vigorous Companion could and would discharge its duties to greater satisfaction than myself."

Notwithstanding which the Companions retained him. They know a good thing when they see it.

Some of the Chapters, it was learned, had been conferring the degrees for less than the legal amount, and the Jurisprudence Committee in its report most strongly condemned the practice and recommended the arrest of the charters.

"The Grand High Priest is hereby requested to take cognizance of any such flagrant violation of the law and apply the penalty. The law does not contemplate a return of any portion of the regular fee and this custom is hereby prohibited by this Grand Chapter."

The veteran Correspondent M. E. Comp. Southgate resumes his seat at the round table and furnishes a splendid report and deals with Canada for 1899 giving it three pages of review. He quotes the writer on the physical perfection question and adds:

"We have so often expressed ourselves on this subject that we will not say more here, but leave the Companions to have their own views in regard to this question which is considered of prime importance by many writers of Masonic history and common law. We con-

fess to being a great stickler concerning the laws of the blue lodge as to physical perfection, but we are not so particular as to physical 'perfection' in the Chapter."

Under Iowa he says of the recording of the Mark:

"We have always considered it a fifth wheel in the Mark Degree, and in this age of the world of no special importance."

We cannot agree with Companion Southgate in this opinion. The recording of the Mark is the logical continuation of the selection thereof and must therefore be regarded as a very essential feature of the degree.

Closing, Companion Southgate says:

"We find nothing new on this road just traveled. All seems bright by the way. Peace, prosperity and happiness possess all and through it all we catch a glimpse of that friendly regard, engendered by old acquaintance and we meet each one of our Companions we scarcely know which hand to grasp the hardest or which eye sparkles the brightest. We have given rather the doings than discuss what has been said in each jurisdiction, for after looking over the fields in passing we find little that has not been made threadbare by previous argumentation and we can afford to let them rest awhile."

Jas. K. Northfleet, Winston, Grand High Priest.
Horace H. Munson, Wilmington, Grand Secretary.

Oregon.

Chapters ... 25. Members ... 1,401.

This jurisdiction turns out a volume of Proceedings that would do credit to one of greater aspirations and wealth. It is just forty years old and its membership is not numerically strong but the quality thereof and the work they furnish for inspection is evidence abundant, that during that fairly long life the necessary care in selection which most of us have been preaching year after year has been practised in an eminent degree by our Companions in the far west.

Thus saith the Grand High Priest to the Companions at the Annual Convocation at Portland on the 11th June, 1900.

"We have safely passed the days of pioneer-hood, lived through the vicissitudes and overcome the hardships attendant upon our early

organization; with our forty years we have increased in strength, profited by experience, attained dignity, and have reached a high and honorable place in the sisterhood of Grand Chapters. While welcoming you, my Companions, to this Grand Session, I desire to also congratulate you upon the general prosperity and harmony that has prevailed within our ranks during the past year. Our Grand Secretary will show by his report a very substantial gain in membership, the Chapters have worked earnestly and well, and I am convinced that the new accessions to Royal Arch Masonry are men and Masons worthy of the rank they have attained and the honors we have conferred."

Among those whose removal by death he deplores are, M. E. Comp. W. E. Crawford, Past Grand High Priest, Comp. Robert Clow, Chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Comp. Thos. G. Reames, who was formerly Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

He of course replied in the negative to the following extraordinary question put to him for decision:

"Has a Chapter the right to confer, gratis, the degree upon a worthy brother too poor to pay the fees as required by the regulations?"

The Grand Secretary reported having sold the paraphernalia of Umpqua Chapter which surrendered its charter some two years since, to Bayley Chapter No. 8, for $58, and turned the proceeds into the Grand Chapter Treasury, adding:

"The robes and curtains were in poor condition and would soon have been worthless from the ravages of moths. I therefore deemed it best to dispose of them as soon as possible."

Wonder if Bayley Chapter struck "bargain day" under the circumstances.

The Committee on Grievances reported that nothing had been reported for consideration saying, "We feel almost assured that among Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction the swords of contention have been beaten into plowshares for the cultivation of fraternal love. So mote it be."

Companion Hodson's review of the Grand Chapters is as sprightly and entertaining as of yore. He introduces it with a remark that might be copied by every Correspondent.

"That there is nothing new or startling is because, contrary to custom, it is the 'expected,' rather than the 'unexpected,' that has happened. The Capitular degrees are so thoroughly organized, and the laws and usages so nearly uniform, that the news from one Grand Chapter might almost be considered news from all."

Canada for 1900 secures his careful and analytical attention. He briefly summarizes the Grand Z.'s address, glances at the statistics, takes a flying leap over the routine of business and settles down with the Correspondent.

"Companion George J. Bennett still presides at the round table, and long may he wave. He congratulates the 'capitular world' on the idleness of the Committees on Grievances, and aptly compares them with Othello when his occupation was gone."

He reproduces our little anecdote of Prof. Huxley and the lady, and remarks pleasantly:

"So we drop a pea after our discussion with him over the 'P. M. degree' and 'capitular world'."

And to our unselfish desire that he is welcome to the undivided possession of the Eastern Star jocularly adds:

"Now, that's real kind. But we can't help thinking he is a little like the Irishman who insisted that he did not like codfish, because he never tasted it."

Not many moons have waned since a rare galaxy of those luminaries assembled in New York City for the purpose, as their summons would say, "of transacting important business and election of officers." The smiling, effusive greetings on the occasion however, covered a seething volcano. All went "merry as a marriage bell" until the election. Then rumblings were heard and the lava of recrimination began to flow. The Oriental constellations were divided. Two of the fair ones aspired to the chair. They were championed by their respective husbands and the rest of the twinklers took sides. It was a hot time. The ballot box, so it was announced, declared for one lady and when murmurs of angry protest arose, the box was promptly disarranged by a prompt kick administered by the successful lady's better half and then——. But

why proceed? It has been remarked just now that it was a hot time. It waxed hotter. Shocking to relate, the stars descended into the mundane atmosphere of the law courts and, of course, being then public property, the "horrid" newspapers possessed themselves of the sweet scented, spicy details and gave them by the column to a cold, unsympathetic world. Their contemporaries elsewhere naturally seized upon "a good thing" and thousands of profane readers over a vast territory winked merrily and smiled audibly.

Now, honestly, would Companion Hodson blame any Irishman for declining to taste codfish when he discovered an objectionable odour? We may inform him too on the authority of a Milesian epicure who shall be nameless, that an Irishman is partial to codfish in its proper place and—fresh.

We gave a few facts in our last with regard to the old land which our good Companion affects to ignore under the following "glittering generality":

"One's environment makes all the difference in the world. Had we been born across the channel and traveled the 'rugged ways' of the Royal Arch under the invisible control of the Prince of Wales, we might have thought that Mark Lodges were the proper caper, that the Past Master and Most Excellent Master were 'inventions of the enemy,' and the Royal Arch the quintessence of completeness; but the luck of circumstance makes us think the 'Mark' as an organization one too many, the Past and Most Excellent in the right place, while the Royal and Select explains exactly how it happened that there was something hidden where Brother Bennett, as well as the rest of us, could find it under the Royal Arch. Just as we expected, he declined to take our 'General Grand' off our hands or even help us dematerialize it."

As a reply, if reply is needed, we append an extract from *The Pacific Mason* which is hereby offered, without apology, as a sample of American opinion in the golden west.

"It is to be regretted that degree mongers in America have meddled with the original institution by dividing the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry to make new degrees, which was due sometimes for the unworthy motive of barter and exchange. Some of these so called "higher degrees" are philosophical and sublime.

But it is the opinion of the writer that Freemasonry was injured by this multiplying degrees. Our ancient Fraternity would be more stable to-day if the ambitious degree and rite makers had kept their unholy hands off the original Masonic ritual. We would like to see the original plan of Freemasonry restored to its primitive form with all its beauty, strength and harmony. To do this it would only be necessary to replace the Mark Degree where it by right belongs, as a part of the Fellow Craft's degree. The Holy Royal Arch should be again placed under the control of the Master's Degree as a sequel to it. The Most Excellent Degree is no part of Ancient Craft Masonry, but purely an American invention. The Past Master's ceremony is not and never was a degree. This ceremony should be maintained as a part of the installation of a Worshipful Master. But the so-called Past Master's "Degree" should be eliminated entirely from the ancient structure. It might be disposed of to some modern society at half-price as a kind of job lot, not needed in the dispatch of Masonic business. We realize that in writing this we are stirring up a hornet's nest and that we may get stung for our pains. Be that as it may, we believe in the doctrine here promulgated, and should the angry hornets fly out at us and sting us, as soon as the smart ceases a little we will punch another stick into the nest."

O. O. Hodson, McMinnville, Grand High Priest.

Jas. F. Robinson, Eugene, Grand Secretary.

Pennsylvania.

Chapters .. 123 Members .. 18,049

The customary quarterly "Communications" preceded the Annual held at Philadelphia on the 27th December, 1899, and at these most of the routine work was done.

At the June meeting the Jurisprudence Committee submitted a report, based on a request from the Grand High Priest from the previous Communication and dealing with the question of Chapter jurisdiction. The

Committee referred to the Constitution which defined that "distance from the residence of a petitioner to the nearest Chapter must be measured on a straight line, without regard to roads or lines of communication," and added the remarkable recommendation "that this decision be *again* confirmed as the recognized law of this Grand Chapter."

Fifty-nine Royal Arch Masons of McKeesport applied for a new Chapter and were accommodated.

Newtown Chapter having been wiped out by fire, asked permission to "cease labour."

The Grand Secretary reported a net gain of 590. There are three Mark Lodges with a membership of 917.

At the annual Communication the Grand High Priest proudly referred in his address to Pennsylvania's "uniformity and accuracy in the work."

"That this is a task of no little difficulty is apparent when the number of our Chapters is considered, and it is remembered that in this Jurisdiction we are firm in our rejection of Monitors and printed Rituals and insist upon oral communication of the work as we received it from our fathers."

He decided that the use of postal cards in sending Chapter notices was not permissible. Also that a Master Mason who since becoming a Master Mason had lost the thumb and the first and second fingers of his right hand, was not eligible to receive the degrees in the Chapter.

He held, and we think rightly, that "While it is desirable that a Companion receiving a Chapter Certificate should sign his name on the margin thereof in the presence of one or more of the officers of the Chapter, it cannot be held to be in all cases necessary for him to do so."

Comp. Henderson had again the supervision of that allotment of the proceedings which included Canada, and very thoroughly reviews our proceedings for 1899. On the minimum fee question he pertinently says:

"We do not believe in cheap Masonry. We never did believe in it. We would not make the initiation fees prohibitory to all but

millionaires, nor would we make them so low that every trifler who desires to gratify a passing whim could avail himself of them. We believe that from forty to fifty dollars is as low as any Lodge should confer its three degrees, and from twenty to twenty-five dollars is as cheap as any Chapter should make a Royal Arch Mason. To those who say that Masonry is too expensive as compared with other secret societies, we would reply that it does not enter into competition with any other society or organization. It is on a plane of its own, to which none other can aspire. It is a luxury not a necessity, and is only for those who can afford luxuries. There are numerous other worthy societies in which the poor man by paying a stipulated sum as an initiation fee, and for annual dues can enter into a contract by which he receives a fixed amount in the way of benefits in case of sickness, or of insurance in case of death. They have done great good and are truly the poor man's friend, and if Masonry is beyond his means they will supply its place to him.

"The man, no matter how poor his circumstances, who joined Masonry because of the good opinion he had of it, and who continued to be a Mason because he loved the symbolism and teachings of Masonry, never objected to its price or found it oppressive. Freemasonry will be appreciated in proportion to the appreciation it shows for itself by not holding itself too cheaply."

He quotes our explanation of the distinction between the Past Master and Installed Master and adds:

"And now we have a question to ask Companion Bennett. How does a brother become a Royal Arch Mason, who has never been elected and installed Worshipful Master of his Lodge?"

The question is asked on the assumption that the qualification is a landmark, at least we read it so. The only source, however, that we have ever found for this is in the explanatory lecture of the American Past Master degree, which being of comparatively modern origin, cannot be consistently regarded in that light. Mackey himself in describing the degree quotes the ritual.

"Originally when Chapters of Royal Arch Masonry were under the government of Lodges in which the degree was then always conferred, it was a part of the regulations that no one could receive the Royal Arch degree unless he had previously presided in the Lodge as Master."

The "regulations" referred to we have only heard of in that one connection, but the practice may have been general in the early days for aught we know. We are told that there are traces of the Royal Arch degree

being worked under the authority of Lodge warrants as far back as 1740, and the discovery by Dr. Oliver of its great essential in a Master Mason's tracing board of date 1725, led him to conclude that "the word" had not been severed from the third degree and transferred to another.

Mackey goes on to say that "until the year 1740 the essential element of the Royal Arch constituted a component part of the Master's degree and was, of course, its concluding portion; that as a degree it was not at all recognized, being but the complement of one; that about that time it was dissevered from its original connection and elevated to the position and invested with the form of a distinct degree by the body which called itself "the Grand Lodge of England according to the Old Constitutions."

He adds: "In America the history of the degree followed that of the English system. As most of the American Lodges derived their warrants from the Athol Grand Lodge, the Royal Arch must have been introduced at the time of their constitution."

Further on he says: "In England in 1834, considerable changes were made in the ceremonies of exaltation, but the general outline of the system was preserved. The degree is the fourth in the Masonic series and a Master Mason who has been so for twelve months is eligible for exaltation."

We cannot find any reference by Dr. Oliver or others who have endeavored to trace the origin and history of the Royal Arch, to the "regulations" quoted in the lecture of the Past Master's degree and must regard them as apochryphal, and like the degree itself, a new world invention. If they ever existed, or if the qualification of the chair was recognized at any time in the olden days, it is very unlikely that England would have so completely buried them that some hint of resurrection would not have been heard in all the subsequent years.

It has been shown that in England a Master Mason is eligible for exaltation after a probationary period.

Nothing comes in between. Why? Because the Royal Arch is the logical continuation and conclusion of the Master's degree. The Mark degree is under a distinct government and the brother may petition for it or not as he is so disposed.

In the United States the degrees of Past Master and Most Excellent Master are made prerequisite. The former was apparently borrowed and refashioned to fit in with the mythical "regulations" so as to give it a semblance of antiquity and stability. Of the Most Excellent Master, Mackey says: "This degree is peculiarly American, it being practised in no other country. It was the invention of Webb, who organized the Capitular system of Masonry as it exists in this country."

The action of Canadian Royal Arch Masons, when forty-four years ago they decided to form a Grand Chapter, may have been largely contributory to the differences of opinion which occasionally form subjects of discussion in these reports. The Companions having decided to establish a Grand Chapter agreed to adopt the Royal Arch degree as it is worked in England and as a matter of convenience only, grafted into the system the Mark and the two other degrees of the United States.

It is held by many that a mistake was then made, but it must be borne in mind that General Grand Chapter had not at that time adopted the regulation providing that the subordinate degrees can be communicated to a Companion visiting from a foreign jurisdiction who had not previously received them. Nevertheless the opinion prevails that Canada in adopting the Mark, Past and Most Excellent, should have taken the American Royal Arch also, as New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have done since, or followed the English system, pure and simple, without the American adornments.

In perusing this most excellent review, we were more interested in Comp. Africa's discussion with Comp. Drummond of Maine, touching the antiquity of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. We take the liberty of quoting a paragraph.

"In 1757, a number of Brethren of the city of Philadelphia applied for, and were granted, a Warrant No. 4 by the 'Modern' Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of which William Allen was then Grand Master. Bro. George Brooks was appointed by the Warrant as Master. On St. John's Day, June 24, 1757, the Lodge was constituted, and soon began to admit members and initiate candidates. A few months later, the Lodge numbered more than twenty members, several of whom were 'Royal Arch Masons.' Most of these Brethren were immigrants from the British Islands and were 'Ancient' Masons, although they were ignorant of the fact that there were two Grand Lodges in England."

One would like to know whether these old-time Royal Arch Masons had conformed to the "regulations" which it is claimed were in existence "originally when Royal Arch Masonry was under the government of Lodges." If so, that Lodge of twenty members could not well run short of Past Masters.

Michael William Jacobs, Harrisburg, Grand High Priest.

Charles Carey, Philadelphia, Grand Secretary.

Quebec.

Chapters .. 11 Members .. 553

A good half-tone of M. E. Comp. H. Leroy Fuller, M.D., the Grand Z., accompanies the "Proceedings" of the Twenty-third Annual Convocation, held in the Chapter Hall of the Montreal Temple, at three o'clock, on Tuesday, the 30th day of January, A.D. 1900. There was a good attendance; Canada's representative, M. E. Comp. Will H. Whyte, being present as Grand Scribe E.

Referring to the origin of the war in South Africa, the Grand Z. says:

"As soon as the 'tocsin of war' was sounded, our Dominion as well as other portions of the Empire responded, not to the call of 'our Mother'; no, they did not wait to be asked, but to that innate feeling fostered by the teachings of Masonry which prompted them at once to proffer aid in repelling the invader. That the Most High, the 'God of battles' may prosper their efforts and return them safe to their homes and country is our earnest prayer.

"Among those who have so nobly gone forth to sacrifice their lives, if necessary, in upholding the honor of the 'Old Flag' are many members of the Masonic Fraternity, some of whom have closed their

earthly labors in far off South Africa. While we mourn with those who mourn, and shed a silent tear with those who weep, we extend our heartfelt sympathy to those bereaved, but we and they have this to console us, that they went forth in a noble cause, and fell fighting for justice and equal rights against injustice, tyranny and oppression. And to the friends of those noble heroes across our Southern Border who have fallen fighting for the Spread of Light and the relief of the oppressed, we also extend our sympathy."

He made a number of visitations and expressed regret at not being able to accept others. Requests for waivers of jurisdiction in favour of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, he declined on the basis of precedent.

"Although willing to grant any reasonable request to our Companions across the border, and more particularly from our good friends of Vermont, I considered the decisions of my predecessors were made in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry in this Province, and the endorsation repeatedly made by the Grand Chapter, prevented my granting concessions at variance with its expressed ideas."

He paid touching tribute to the personal qualities and Masonic labours of M. E. Companion John Hamilton Graham, LL.D., who was called to his reward in the preceding August.

The reports of the District Superintendents demonstrated that the Royal Craft was not retrograding in Quebec. The Chapter at Bedford, however, which had not been heard of for five years, received warning of approaching danger, and the incoming Grand Z. was instructed to use his prerogative.

The Grand Scribe E. in his report, administered a well deserved rebuke to Chapters tardy in sending in their returns.

Acknowledging the receipt of missives from Representatives at sister Grand Chapters, he remarks:

"It is so seldom a Grand Representative keeps the Grand Chapter, to which he is accredited, in remembrance that he is still alive, that I think some note should be taken of it.

"R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt, since his appointment, has not failed to write and state the progress of the Grand Chapter of Canada and mention any important legislation that has occurred."

One hundred dollars were voted to the Patriotic Fund.

M. E. Companion E. T. D. Chambers furnishes the Correspondence report and reviews Canada for 1899. He quoted the Grand Z. in extenso on the subject of the reduction of the minimum fee, mainly as an object lesson to those in Quebec who would go and do likewise.

Under Pennsylvania, he pauses to have a word with Companion Henderson, who in defending his Grand Chapter for not recognizing New Zealand, had remarked: "Masonry in Pennsylvania does not change; therefore, there is nothing new in our own Jurisdiction."

And this is how Comp Chambers proceeds to show him that even immaculate Pennsylvania can be occasionally inconsistent.

"We know that in this statement Companion Henderson correctly defines the usual policy of the Masons of his Jurisdiction, who would scorn, in theory, to deviate one hair's breadth from the practices laid down and followed by the 'Fathers.' But in his report on the recognition of New Zealand there is apparently something quite new in his Jurisdiction, which contradicts the statement that Masonry in Pennsylvania does not change. He takes the extraordinary ground that a so-called Supreme Masonic Body which has not the allegiance of all the Bodies in its territory, is not entitled to recognition as such. This remarkable contention is not in keeping with the past policy of the Grand Bodies of Pennsylvania, and if it was, neither the Grand Lodge nor the Grand Chapter of Quebec, would ever have been recognized by them. We cannot approve the present stand of the Grand Chapter and of Companion Henderson, without assuming that Pennsylvania has erred in the past in this matter and that Quebec is not entitled to the recognition that it enjoys at the hands of sister Grand Lodges and Chapters."

H. LeRoy Fuller, M.D., Sweetsburg, Grand Z.
Will H. Whyte, Montreal, Grand Scribe E.

Rhode Island.

Chapters .. 10. Members .. 2597.

The first Annual of Little Rhody's second century, was held in Freemasons' Hall Providence, March 14th, 1899. Among the Representatives present was Canada's plenipotentary, Companion W. R. Greene.

Grand High Priest Arthur H. Armington, having duly referred to that "war for humanity's sake," added:

"The United States finds itself at another, and perhaps, thus far, the most important epoch in her history. Hitherto we have come, through a recognition of the grand truths of the sovereignty and fatherhood of God and the equality and brotherhood of man; and so long as these, the fundamental truths of Masonry, remain as the foundations of our civil structure, we shall steadily advance to a glorious destiny."

He was earnest in visitation, having been to all the subordinate Chapters during the year, and to several of them more than once. The other officers were equally assiduous.

The G. H. P. contrasts the facilities afforded the city Companion for attendance at Chapter with the difficulties cheerfully encountered by him of the country.

"Those located in the cities have great advantages over those which meet in the more sparely settled portions of the State, and more may reasonably be expected and required of the former in this respect than of the latter. No officer can perform his best Masonic work without the inspiration which is gained from full meetings, and these it is impossible to secure in Chapters with few members and those few living in homes widely scattered over a territory with no public means of conveyance. It requires little exertion to attend the meetings of the Chapter, on the part of those who can step from their door to an electric car and ten or fifteen minutes later walk into the Chapter hall, even in the most inclement weather having nothing to care for except umbrella and overshoes. It is a different matter for the Mason in the rural district, who must begin his preparations, perchance, before his city Brother has arisen from his bed in the morning, so that his round of daily duties may be finished in time to accomplish the drive over the ten or twelve miles of road, which in the early spring seem more like a barrier than a means of communication between his home and the Chapter hall. On arriving there he must care for his horse and perhaps arrange the paraphernalia for the meeting, and at the end of the meeting again take the long and lonely drive, arriving home perhaps in the early hours of the morning. Possibly the city Mason would, under the same circumstances, be as regular in his attendance, but probably it is as fortunate for our reputations as enthusiastic Masons, that we have not been subjected to such a test."

Dispensations to receive and ballot on petitions at the same Convocation he refused because they were clearly made in the interest of the Brother desiring to make application. For this he was commended highly by the Committee on the Address.

The Grand Stewards, as is customary, were ordered to prepare for the annual dinner at the next annual.

Rev. Companion Rugg's admirable paper in the Appendix can scarcely be called a report on Correspondence, but he gives of his own bright intellect ungrudgingly, and beautiful reading it makes.

"The purpose of this paper, however, whatever its form may be, or the name to which it is properly entitled, is not very much different from the report written after the generally approved method. We would impart information respecting Freemasonry in general, and Royal Arch Masonry in particular; so far as possible, we would do a work of instruction and edification; but, failing in this, we would still hope to offer some word of suggestion, perhaps of encouragement, to cheer a brother Craftsman as he pursues the pilgrim path of earth. For such work, for the realizing of such a purpose, there is a preparation needed. It is not enough to read the Proceedings of Grand Bodies and note the discussion of important questions therein reported; nor is it a sufficient preparation to make one's self familiar with the best works on Masonic history and jurisprudence. These helps are valuable. They furnish a grand equipment to the Masonic writer. But above these requisites of successful work is that preparation which only comes after long years of Masonic experience, and when the heart is overflowing with love for the Institution."

The foregoing in a measure will furnish an insight into his method. The paper is not one to cull from and it is too much to reproduce. Such thoughts must not be hacked or curtailed else the entire fabric suffers. The Companions of Rhode Island are to be congratulated on the possession of this gifted Companion.

Arthur H. Armington, Providence, Grand High Priest.

William R. Greene, Providence, Grand Secretary.

South Dakota.

Chapters .. 27. Members .. 1565.

Grand High Priest Benjamin F. Ires, whose portrait makes a smiling frontispiece to the printed Proceedings, presided over the Eleventh Annual Convocation, held at Aberdeen, June 14th, 1900.

In August he issued a circular letter to the subordinate Chapters, stating that the Grand High Priest wished to visit them personally or by proxy, and requesting them to name a date when (if at all) they wished such a visit. Most of the Chapters responded, cordially inviting the Grand High Priest to visit them. One High Priest wrote:

"We should be very much pleased to see either the Grand High Priest or the Grand Lecturer at almost any time, but it is very doubtful whether it would be worth your while to expend the fund appropriated by the Grand Chapter for promoting uniformity in the work, upon.....Chapter No..... The Chapter is working well under the General Grand Chapter work, the general sentiment among the Companions seems to be that it would be best to let well enough alone, and not to attempt to make any change in the work, at least for the present."

In spite of this remarkable rebuff the visits to other Chapters were made and much good was effected. One was in "a peculiar condition."

"Companions of exceptional ability, earnest and apparently taking a deep interest in the work; and yet so uninstructed as to be unable to open a Chapter in form. Believing it to be a case calling for 'heroic treatment,' we administered it; receiving, referring and balloting on petitions and conferring all the degrees on four candidates."

The Committee in endorsing the above, yet desired it to be understood that its opposition to granting dispensations for such purposes was as firm as ever.

In December, he wrote letters to each Chapter in the Jurisdiction warning them against the use of a (so-called) "Aid to Memory," advertisements of which had been scattered broadcast throughout the State.

During the year the Grand High Priest suffered a great personal bereavement in the death of his wife, and Grand Chapter passed a touching resolution of sympathy.

M. E. Companion Louis G. Levoy continues in the Correspondent's chair and furnishes a chatty and most enjoyable report. We thank him for his congratulations.

He is not with us on the dependent membership question, but we are with him on others; for instance, under Nevada he has something pertinent to say about the matter of dues which strikes one as being well worthy of consideration.

"In South Dakota the minimum fee prescribed by Grand Chapter, for the degrees is $30, and the dues charged vary from 50 cents to $2.50 per year. It is true there are very few Chapters that ask only 50 cents, but it is equally true that there are few that ask $2.50, the amount seems to be about $1.00 a year, and that is, in most cases, enough for the average man who affiliates with several Masonic bodies and who finds they aggregate quite a sum at the end of each year.

"No; we believe that were Grand Chapters to reduce the fees and the Chapters their dues, to a reasonable amount, increased membership would follow, in any case, if a large amount is to be charged let it be to those asking admittance, and make the exactions of dues as light as possible to those already admitted within the Sanctuary."

Martin G. Carlisle, DeSmet, Grand High Priest.

Geo. A. Pettigrew, Flandreau, Grand Secretary.

South Carolina.

Chapters .. 19 Members .. 649

In Charleston, on the 13th February, 1900, the Eighty-ninth Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter was opened by Frank T. Wilhite, M. E. Grand High Priest.

He could not congratulate Grand Chapter on a visible increase in the Chapters, but all were harmonious. He made one visit and deputed the Grand Secretary to look after the others.

"While there is cause for congratulation, there is doubtless occasion for some regret and painful reflection when each individual Companion asks himself the question, 'Have I done all in my power to discharge the duties which Masonry enjoins upon me?'"

The Mark degree was exemplified by the members of Grand Chapter in the afternoon and the Royal Arch in the evening of the first day, after which the local Commandery entertained the delegates.

There was nothing before the Grievances Committee and that on Jurisprudence was similarly idle.

Companion Grand Secretary J. T. Barron furnishes the dainty Correspondence report. To Arkansas' enactment against the vendors of intoxicants, he says:

"We are not in sympathy with this class of legislation; if the liquor seller, why not the liquor drinker? The ballot box and not legislation is the proper means of elevating the general standing and estimate of the Order."

Reviewing Canada for 1899, he opens by saying: "Since we undertook to review the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, three years ago, we have never had the pleasure of recording our Representative as present. It will not always be thus!"

Of the writer he says:

"Comp. George J. Bennett furnishes another of his splendid reports on Correspondence, which we have read with much interest. He is still vigorous in his defence of the action of his Grand Chapter in the abolition of the Past Master's degree.

"He accords two full pages to South Carolina, in which he finds space to record his judgment of the writer as something of an optimist in the matter of the condition of the Royal Craft in South Carolina. He will see who is nearer correct.

"We lay aside this report with regret that our space does not permit a reproduction of a number of his views that suit our fancy."

John R. Bellinger, Bamberg, Grand High Priest.

Jacob T. Barron, Columbia, Grand Secretary.

Tennessee.

Chapters .. 67 Members .. 2,644

The Seventy-first Annual Convocation, held at Nashville on the 29th January, 1900, was presided over by Grand High Priest E. S. Miller, who from his address seemed to have had an unpleasant year.

"I am under the necessity of informing you that I have not, during the year, visited any subordinate Chapter within our Jurisdiction, except Thomas E. Matson Chapter 131, in which I hold my membership, and whose Convocation I attended as often as my health permitted. During the spring and early summer my health was so impaired as to make it impracticable to go abroad. Later my home town was afflicted with smallpox, and was quarantined by neighboring towns; and the disease was so prevalent at times throughout the State as to make it unsafe to travel. Furthermore, my profession is that of a practising physician, and this required every day of my time when I was able for service. For these reasons I was debarred the privilege of visiting subordinate Chapters. In this I was the loser."

He granted numerous dispensations, mostly to elect and install officers out of regular time, and pronounced one decision, to wit:

"A Companion demitting from his Lodge and remaining a voluntary non-affiliate for six months is not eligible to the office of High Priest in a Chapter, and cannot lawfully be installed as such."

Referring to the Widows' and Orphans' Home, he said a noble work was being done there. It is taking care of one hundred and sixteen inmates.

Four Charters were arrested during the year and three dispensations for new Chapters issued.

The Finances being in a satisfactory condition, the Committee on Ways and Means recommended that no change be made in the per capita tax.

Companion Ingersoll's report on Correspondence is as sprightly as ever. Reviewing Canada for 1899, he says:

"Without prelude or gratitude, the M. Ex. Grand Z. bounded into business. Small show for sentiment in Canada! But who can wonder, considering the literal and other obstacles that beset this Grand worthy?"

Our nomenclature affords him unbounded amusement, which we should be sorry to cut short by any attempt at enlightenment. Having referred to our little treasury, he remarks:

"Last comes a report of revision of all these seventeen Reports of Superintendents, which gives one strong impression of the thoroughness of our 'Canuck' Companions."

"But why should Chapter Masons far enough advanced to count money in dollars and cents still cling to the antiquated Z., H., and J.?"

And by way of a parting shot he delivers this combination of wit and elegant diction:

"The 42nd Annual was held at the city of London last week, January 24, and there is a vague rumor afloat that a motion to substitute modern nomenclature was lost by the casting vote of the presiding officer, who was 'stuck on' his Grand Z."

He pokes fun, too, at England and its methods, and especially does the titular honors of its officers tickle him:

"The meetings are made up of about four parts business and one part royal adulation. There is no Address, no reports of standing committees, no oration, no necrology (Laus Deo!); but there is a whole raft of Grand Officers, from the Grand Master, the 'Most High, Puissant, and Most Illustrious Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales,' Duke of divers places, Earl of more, and 'Lord of the Isles,' and sundry other titular honors too numerous to mention, down to the Grand Tiler, Edward J. Mills, P. A. G. I. G. (whatever that may be); and they install, inaugurate, invest, proclaim, and salute them with as grand and unfailing ceremony as tho Særistadar receives from his Oriental suitors."

"The Prince never attends any Communication—that wouldn't do, of course—but he is as surely elected as the Annual comes around; and then he appoints a Pro-Grand Master to act for him, who is always

the same—the Earl of Euston. Then comes a Viscount for Deputy, and so on down through Marquess and Col. and Maj. and Bart. and M. P. and Q. C. to the common folks."

He is a discerning reader withal, is Companion Ingersoll, as witness:

"Forty pages suffice for the Minutes of all four meetings. The residue of the volume is occupied with financial reports—all done up with English thoroughness—and a roster of Mark Lodges around the globe wherever an English colony is situated or 'the morning drum beat, following the sun and keeping company with the hours, circles the globe with one continual melody of the martial airs of the Kingdom.'"

A. S. Myers, Memphis, Grand High Priest.

W. A. Clendening, Nashville, Grand Secretary.

Texas.

Chapters .. 157. Members .. 7,020.

In addition to the above, the printed Proceedings show a list of "demised" Chapters numbering no less than seventy-one, and which have yielded up the ghost in the interval between 1855 and 1899.

The active Chapters have been doing good work and show a net gain for the year of 526.

Grand High Priest W. L. Burdett greeted his Companions to the Fifty-first Annual Convocation in the City of Houston, on December 4th, 1900. Opening his address with these verses.

"There is a prayer unsaid,
No lips its accents move;
'Tis uttered by the pleading eye,
And registered above.

"Each mystic sign is prayer,
By hand of Mason given;
Each gesture pleads or imprecates,
And is observed in heaven."

He made impressive reference to the appalling calamity at Galveston, which at the time shocked the universe.

"While we are standing on the brink of the nineteenth century, a terrible and grievous calamity has befallen the Craft and the people

generally, on the coast of our beloved State, and many thousands of her inhabitants have, without a moment's warning, been ushered into the presence of the Grand Artificer of the Universe, and their homes and fireside altars have been swept out of existence ; but thanks to a generous people throughout this country, and many in foreign lands, and especially the Masonic Brotherhood throughout the United States, the wants and necessities of those left behind have, in a great degree, been supplied, and we sincerely hope that the coast country of Texas will again blossom as the rose, and that the altars of Masonry, which have been so ruthlessly swept away, will again be raised grander and brighter than ever."

During the year the oldest Past Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Frank B. Sexton, was called within the Eternal Veil.

A dispensation for a new Chapter was issued to Companions in the City of Mexico.

Public installations seem to be popular in Texas for he issued dispensations for such in no fewer than half a dozen cases.

An Act of Incorporation was secured during the year "and the charter of the Grand Chapter of Texas was duly filed in the Secretary of State's office on the 28th day of May, 1900, and is now in possession of our Grand Secretary."

He decided on submitted questions in fifteen cases nearly all of which were of local importance, only one however may interest the outsider.

"Asked if the deposition of the Secretary of a Chapter could be taken to be used as evidence in the courts of Texas, giving a copy of that part of the Minutes, showing a Companion was present at a certain meeting, the Companion being dead, and whether it would be proper for the H. P. to take the old Minute Book into the Court House in order to show that the Companion was present.

"I answered : That I had never heard such a question raised ; that there was nothing especially secret in the Minutes of a Chapter, and I could see nothing improper in the Secretary's answering the interrogatories. In the celebrated Tom Bean case, in Grayson county, a few years ago, a copy of the Minutes of a Lodge in Arkansas were used as evidence, and the Secretary was introduced as a witness in the trial of the Trans-Cedar lynching cases in Henderson county, to show by his records that a certain member was not present at a particular meeting."

Reports of the Grand Visitors displayed the usual zeal and assiduity.

The presentation of a Past Grand High Priest Jewel to M. E. Comp. Burdett was made in these words :

In days of old, so we are told,
They decked the conqueror's brow
With wreath of laurel, freshly plucked
From off the hanging bough.

Too soon, alas, the wreath would fade,
The withering leaves would fall,
And naught be left to tell the tale,
Save mem'ry's weak recall.

In our good day, we have improved
Upon the days of old,
And we now deck our honored ones
With jewels of pure gold.

To you, dear sir, as you have been
Honored above the rest,
We give in charge this jewel rare
To wear upon your breast.

Upon its shining surface, see,
Symbols have been wrought,
To help you ever bear in mind
The lessons herein taught.

And round them all, and best of all,
Coming from hearts so true,
Are love, respect, esteem, we feel,
Companion, here for you.

And may you wear it many years,
And when life's work is done,
Posterity may learn from it
Of honors here you've won.

In congratulating the Grand Secretary Companion Geo. Lopas, Jr., on his wonderful celerity in producing the voluminous report of the Proceedings and issuing them to the Grand Chapters, we have also to regret that lack of time and space prevent us from doing full justice to his labours.

To Companion Terrell the happy and witty Correspondent we offer the same excuse for our brevity with his admirable report. It is replete with information and but that we are desirous of including Texas with the document just closing, would fain linger with it for a more lengthy review. He had Canada for 1900 under his eagle optic and did it full justice. He quotes the Grand Z.'s opening and noting one of his decisions remarks :

"We are therefore led to presume that it requires more than one black ball to reject an applicant."

So it is Companion. A Chapter may require by by-law of course a unanimous ballot, but the privilege of limiting the objections to two is permitted. Coming to the writer he says:

"Our Irish friend and Companion, George J. Bennett, again regales us with one of his well written, instructive and interesting reports."

He quotes our views on physical perfection with which he seems to agree, but

"Companion Bennett is very decided in his objection to dependent membership, wherein we do not agree, as we have often argued. Strange we haven't convinced anybody!

"He well objects to the use of our lodge rooms for other than Masonic purposes:

"He also reviews the proceedings of the last Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, and therein says: 'All the State Grand Chapters except Pennsylvania and Virginia acknowledge allegiance.'

"We are constrained to ask, where is Texas? Or does our good Irish-Canadian brother regard Texas as an Empire or a Dominion?"

"We owe Allegiance, but we won't acknowledge it. We have repudiated the debt. But more anon Comp. Bennett."

To the oversight we plead guilty and admit we did a rank injustice to Texas in thus unintentionally reflecting on its sturdy independence. It will never occur again Companion Terrell.

Jas. D. Crenshaw, San Antonio, Grand High Priest.
Geo. Lopas, Jr., Floresville, Grand Secretary.

Vermont.

Chapters ... 27. Members ... 3,033.

With a net increase of one hundred and forty-one this old grand Chapter started on its Eighty-fourth year. The Annual Convocation was held in Burlington on June 15, 1900, with an average attendance.

Grand High Priest Calderwood was happy in the fact that he was not asked for any decisions nor did he hear of any disturbance of the peace. He includes with his

address the communications received from the Grand Z. of Quebec, in which the latter declined to grant waiver of jurisdiction over candidates resident in his territory but who, for convenience sake, desired to apply for the thedegrees in Vermont Chapters located close to the border line. The Grand Z.'s view of the situation was based on the actions, in similar cases, of his predecessors which had been endorsed by his Grand Chapter. The Grand High Priest added :

"In view of the fact that there has existed, in the past, and we hope still exists, the most cordial and fraternal relations among the Brethren on both sides of the line dividing Vermont and the Queen's dominions, material being given and received, the refusal to grant the waiver of jurisdiction, in the cases noted was a surprise to me, yet I do not impute to it so harsh a term as lack of courtesy and will refrain from comment."

And from a perusal of Quebec's Proceedings it is gathered that the Grand High Priest was right in hesitating to arrive at a harsh decision.

Vermont seems to be in the position of a few other Grand bodies in the matter of ritual.

"I am firmly of the opinion that nothing could be done by this Grand Body that would so enthuse the several Chapters, and add dignity and importance to the office of Grand Lecturer, as having a ritual and floor work established by this Grand Body, something that the Grand Lecturer can teach with full and ample authority."

He recommended the appointment of a Committee for revising the ritual.

The Grand Lecturer's report, however, states :

"But little need be said about the floor work. The method introduced three years ago has proved very satisfactory and a practical uniformity in floor work is found throughout the State, adding much to the smoothness of conferring the degrees. The work in the main is dignified and impressive and objectionable features are being gradually eliminated."

It appears that the Past Master has not been all that could be desired by the Grand Lecturer, for he says of it :

"Soon after the last annual session of the Grand Chapter the Grand Secretary sent a cirular letter to each Grand Jurisdiction in the

United States asking if they conferred the Past Master's degree "in full" or in the manner recommended by the General Grand Chapter. He received replies from thirty-eight. Of these only eleven report the degree worked in "full form," while twenty-one conform to the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter, five work it generally in brief form, but occasionally break over to accommodate companions, who want a little fun, and one, Pennsylvania, does not include it in the Chapter degrees, conferring the degree in the Lodge, or by "dispensation." I believe this Grand Chapter ought to and will conform to the recommendation of the General Grand Chapter as to the manner of conferring the Past Master's degree and thus do away with the possibility of introducing featurers that ought never to be allowed in any Masonic degree."

Companion Marsh O. Perkins reviews the Proceedings of other Grand Chapters with his usual marked ability, and gives nearly a couple of pages to Canada. Referring to the reduction of the minimum fee he says:

"When chapters go to bidding for candidates they lower the dignity of the Masonic Institution, and no Masonic body can preserve its own self-respect, to say nothing of the honor of the craft at large, by placing the degrees on cheap bargain counters, Their value is belittled every time by hanging out the sign, "For Sale Cheap," and no one with high ideals of the Masonic Fraternity is attracted thereby."

Under District of Columbia he comments on the admission of Admiral Schley thus:

"Still another notable event is recorded in the exercise by the Grand High Priest of a Grand Master's prerogative of making a Mason at sight by thus investing Admiral Winfield Scott Schley with the capitular degrees. This was looked upon with favor by Grand Chapter. We hope Companion Singleton will explain from whence a Grand High Priest derives such authority. As we understand it, he does not possess it in Vermont except so far as to exercise the power of dispensation, the very thing the Grand High Priest of the District refused to exercise, and then went forward to express the Admiral to Jerusalem by "ego power." By the way Admiral Schley was made a Mason at sight by the Grand Master of the District. Now why should he have been singled out for this double distinction to the exclusion of others, equally brave, patriotic and honorable? If our companions of the capital approve of it, it is of course all right for them. But up in Vermont, it would if it occurred here be called toadyism."

Charles H. Williams, Bellows Falls, Grand High Priest.

Warren G. Reynolds, Burlington, Grand Secretary.

Victoria.

In a pamphlet of eighteen pages the Proceedings of four Convocations of this Grand Chapter is submitted for capitular review.

The first was held in The Freemasons' Hall, Collins St., Melbourne, on Sept. 19, 1899, and the representatives of eleven Chapters responded to the roll call. There is nothing to indicate the exact strength of this "Supreme Grand Chapter" either in Chapters or membership.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes included the appointment of a Finance Committee, a communication from Arkansas re representative, and the issue of two dispensations to Chapters for unstated purposes.

As the representative of Canada is the prominent figure in the following, it is submitted without curtailment:

"In connection with the consideration of Clause 5 of the Committee's report of 3rd January, 1898, letters from E. Comps. J. Drysdald Brown, and G. L. Skinner were read, after which E. Comp. T. P. Derham, G. Reg gave a resume of the circumstances under which the question submitted to them arose, and moved "That on production of evidence that M. E. Comp. J. D. Drew held the rank of Past Grand Z., under the Grand Chapter of Canada on the 22nd July, 1895, the M. E. the First Grand Principal be requested to confer on the Companion the rank of Past Grand Z. of this Constitution." Seconded by E. Comp. C. J. Davidson, Pres. Com. of Gen. Pur., and carried."

The Committee on Uniformity of Working reported "that the revised working, so far as it relates to the Exaltation Ceremony, and the opening and closing of Chapters, is in the printers' hands, and will be ready for issue at an early date."

The Treasurer reported a balance of £90 6*s.* 10*d.* in hand.

In "antient and solemn form" Grand Chapter was closed and the Companions met again four months later, viz., on January 17th, with the pro Grand Z. in the chair. Canada's own Companion J. Damer Drew, was present with other Representatlves.

"The V. E. the Grand Scribe E. read a communication from the M. E. the First Grand Principal, stating that he had conferred the rank of P. G. Z. on the undermentioned Companions:—

Comp. J. D. Drew,	Australasian Kilwinning Chapter, No. 93.
" R. O. Thompson	Washington Chapter, No. 9.
" Frank Davies,	Melbourne Chapter, No. 70.

That's the kind of procedure that makes some of our Companions across the line exceedingly weary.

Two distinguished Companions were named to represent Maine and Minnesota. Other business was routine.

On April the 18th Grand Chapter again met with a Past Grand Z. presiding, the illustrious Chief and his "Pro" both being absent.

The Committee of General Purposes resolved to deal with the matter of "framing regulations as provided for in the rules and regulations under which the degree of M.E.M. can be conferred by the Chapters in this Territory. These regulations the Committee hopes to be able to submit for the approval of Grand Chapter at the next Convocation."

Attention was directed to a lecture to be delivered by Comp. the Rev. Dr. Joseph Abrahams on the Banners and Bannerettes used in R. A. Freemasonry.

At the Convocation in July the Pro Grand Z. presided.

Receipt of a number of records of Proceedings of of Grand Chapter Convocations were acknowledged, among others Canada for 1900.

The Committee of General Purposes met in the previous May.

"The Committee decided that a banquet should follow the Grand Annual Festival, the price of tickets to be 3/6 each, also, that all Companions will be admitted to the installation ceremony and the banquet.

"The Committee recommends to Grand Chapter, that the railway fares of residential Country members of the Committee be paid.

A new Chapter at Shepparton was recommended for a Charter and it went through. The balance to the credit of Grand Chapter had grown to £113 17*s.* 2*d.*

A. J. Peacock, Melbourne, Grand Z.
John Braime, Melbourne, Grand Scribe E.

Virginia.

Chapters ... 38. Members ... 2,737.

In Ample Form and after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Ninety-Second "Grand Annual Convocation" was opened by Grand High Priest Thomas E. Schwartz, who told his Companions at the outset of his address that "owing to business engagements" he had visited very few Chapters in the jurisdiction. He did visit four and one of the Schools of Instruction.

He granted the petition of Old Dominion Chapter at Bedford City, to be permitted to give up the ghost, and issued a dispensation for a new Chapter at Castlewood.

He made due enquiry and arrived at the conclusion that New Zealand was all right and directed the Grand Secretary to recognize in the customary manner.

"In conformity to an ancient custom and to the requirements of the "Methodical Digest," the Grand Lecturer submitted an exhaustive report which conclusively shewed that he was not weary in well-doing. Here is how he concludes:

"If the cause of R. A. Masonry is languishing in any part of of this Grand Jurisdiction, it certainly is not in those places where I have been called to visit. Witness the fact that I have exalted one hundred and one candidates during the year, besides conferring the subordinate degrees on five candidates; which fully realizes the hope I expressed last year in my report as Assistant G. L., viz: that this year would show a more decided gain than that then past."

The District Officer also contributed to the good work and assisted to keep the embers aglow.

Grand Chapter, by resolution, decided to abandon the annual banquet. It was also resolved:

"That it shall be considered a Masonic offence for any Royal Arch Mason of Virginia to make or have in his possession any form of letter, figure or cipher of the unwritten work of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, legible or intelligible to himself or any other person."

Two "silent" Chapters were declared extinct.

Companion Nesbitt is still to the fore as Correspondent. He reviews Canada briefly for 1899.

Fred. Greenwood, Norfolk, Grand High Priest.

Jas. B. Blanks, Petersburg, Grand Secretary.

Washington.

Chapters .. 19. Members .. 1,235.

In the City of Tacoma and on the 8th day of June, 1900, the Sixteenth Annual Convocation was "called to order" at ten a.m.

Grand High Priest D. Lew Paramore, having opened in Ample Form, addressed the Companions and expressed grateful thanks to the Giver of all good for a reason of prosperity.

The death of Past Grand High Priest McMicken, Grand Treasurer, was feelingly referred to. He was a most worthy Craftsman and Washington feels his loss keenly

The Grand High Priest made a good record.

"I have visited all the Chapters and have given instructions to all alike. I have devoted a great deal of time and study to the details of the work, and in a few minor points I am still somewhat in doubt as to the exact manner in which it should be done; but that there should be a uniformity I directed it done in a certain way until future time should find the right. My instructions were well received by all, and in fact I was agreeably surprised at the interest taken in the work at each visit."

He recommended that a fee of $5 be charged for a dispensation to confer degrees out of the regular order, and for allowing the use of a substitute, a fee of $3.

He issued two dispensations for new Chapters and referred to a little misunderstanding with the Grand Chapter of Texas.

The Grand Secretary reported that all the Chapters had made returns and paid their dues, and a net gain of 51 was recorded.

Grand Orator McCroskey delivered an address that must have impressed his hearers.

The Committee on Chartered Chapters reported that one return was sent in without the Seal attached and another lacked the Secretary's autograph. They, however, submitted in extenuation that that officer was dead.

There were no grievances and no appeals.

Companion Yancey C. Blalock, the genial Grand Secretary presented a carefully prepared report on Correspnodence in which Canada for 1900 is included.

Companion Blalock does not say much himself but like the Irishman, he "does a power of thinking." Nevertheless he labours for his Companions of Washington and his selections are intended to inform and interest and they no doubt appreciate his unselfish services.

Harry Rush, Spokane, Grand High Priest.

Yancey C. Blalock, Walla Walla, Grand Secretary.

Conclusion.

The century, as we close our labours, is in its dying throes, and looking backward across the fleeting portion of it that has been permitted to us by an All Wise Providence, we pause to reflect on the wonders performed by Him to Whom a thousand years is but a day.

That brief retrospective glance resolves itself into a panorama of marvellous achievements guided by the Divine Will and intended for ungrateful man's benefit. It has also afforded a glimpse of the pioneer struggles, persecutions, and final triumph of Freemasonry, together with the familiar personalties of its heroes who, in the years gone by, fought and fell in the cause which they have left to us as a sacred heritage. May we be worthy of the trust.

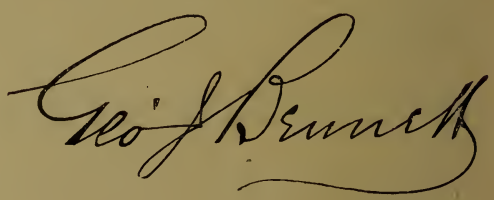
To all, and especially to our Companions of the Guild who have been uniformly patient with us, we wish

A Happy New Year.

PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

Alabama	1899	Mississippi	1900
Arizona	1899	Missouri	1900
Arkansas	1899	Nebraska	1899
California	1900	Nevada	1900
Colorado	1899	New Brunswick	1900
Connecticut	1900	New Hampshire	1900
Delaware	1900	New Jersey	1899
District of Columbia	1899	New York	1900
Florida	1900	North Carolina	1900
Georgia	1900	Oregon	1900
Illinois	1900	Pennsylvania	1899
Indiana	1900	Quebec	1900
Indian Territory	1900	Rhode Island	1899
Iowa	1900	South Dakota	1900
Kansas	1900	South Carolina	1900
Kentucky	1899	Tennessee	1900
Louisiana	1900	Texas	1900
Maryland	1899	Vermont	1900
Massachusetts	1900	Victoria	1899-1900
Michigan	1900	Virginia	1900
Minnesota	1900	Washington	1900

Fraternally submitted,



Chairman.

STATISTICS.

As Compiled by M. E. Comp. J. H. Drummond, of Maine.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations	Admissions & Restorations.	Dismissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non-pay't dues.	Deaths.
Alabama	874	92	18	18	0	0	51	27
Arizona	301	41	4	10	0	0	7	3
Arkansas	1,794	120	25	24	1	3	98	55
California	5,835	473	138	121	0	0	120	108
Canada	5,870	519	76	101	0	....	*103	64
Colorado	2,574	138	58	46	0	...	*45	40
Connecticut	6,027	291	18	18	1	0	120	105
Delaware	704	56	1	2	0	....	*10	9
District of Columbia	2,320	202	31	28	0	...	*48	42
Florida	693	73	21	27	1	....	*13	12
Georgia	3,338	284	95	98	0	....	*67	59
Illinois	17,095	902	336	278	2	....	*440	268
Indiana	6,815	367	75	136	7	8	130	106
Indian Territory	977	70	14	17	0	....	*18	7
Iowa	7,607	423	127	166	3	53	142	92
Kansas	5,203	312	96	129	1	1	113	58
Kentucky	3,269	282	85	58	4	....	*125	60
Louisiana	1,243	131	24	20	0	....	*23	21
Maine	6,502	364	28	62	0	0	30	120
Maryland	1,924	94	22	30	0	....	*20	22
Massachusetts	15,741	726	26	164	0	0	147	238
Michigan	13,641	517	110	65	9	0	182	190
Minnesota	4,996	244	64	94	0	0	122	44
Mississippi	1,621	208	41	60	1	0	29	43
Missouri	7,157	489	192	150	4	9	187	100
Montana	832	59	11	9	1	1	23	15
Nebraska	2,900	129	51	68	4	....	*87	39
Nevada	308	22	4	8	0	0	0	13
New Brunswick †	437	23	28	11	0	0	0	4
New Hampshire	3,646	....	145	24	0	0	12	57
New Jersey	3,483	234	60	58	1	....	*108	65
New Mexico	405	19	9	20	0	...	*2	1
New York	21,223	1,442	359	261	0	0	533	329
North Carolina	787	71	81	5	5	....	*20	10
North Dakota	926	76	8	17	1	...	*4	4
Nova Scotia	715	28	5	23	0	....	*12	13
Ohio	15,512	984	250	162	5	1	447	246
Oregon	1,312	78	14	19	0	1	31	23
Pensylvania	18,049	1,176	165	140	....	....	*319	292
Quebec	553	45	7	12	0	....	*15	8
Rhode Island	2,601	149	5	3	0	0	108	47
South Carolina	649	64	11	11	0	...	*33	13
South Dakota	1,492	62	17	46	0	....	*21	14
Tennessee	2,644	126	102	61	1	6	59	57
Texas	6,494	504	147	239	6	....	*187	97
Vermont	2,997	162	14	19	0	....	*16	38
Virginia	2,737	253	41	114	0	0	110	43
Washington	1,171	51	30	22	0	....	*28	18
West Virginia	1,826	217	48	46	0	....	*46	17
Wisconsin	6,145	275	69	111	2	....	*81	109
Gen. Gr. Chapter	1,176	75	19	29	0	...	*6	11
	225,151	13,684	3,425	3,361	60	83	4,698	3,476

* Including suspensions for U. M. C. † Same as last year.

INTRODUCTION OF ROYAL ARCH MASONRY IN TORONTO.

HISTORICAL ADDRESS BY EX. COMP. HENRY T. SMITH, IN WHICH HE TRACES THE PROGRESS OF THE ROYAL CRAFT FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

The Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, on November 16th, 1900, in the Masonic Hall of the Temple Building, Toronto, celebrated the Centennial of the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry into "York," now Toronto. Ex. Companion Henry T. Smith, Second Principal of the Chapter, delivered the following interesting address on the occasion.

COMPANIONS:—What means this gathering of men to-night, clothed in the insignia of the Royal Craft? I answer that question for you. You are doing what it has been the custom to do in every age and country, amongst the savage as well as the civilized nations of the world, that is, to observe stated anniversaries and festivals.

The anniversary we are celebrating to-night is the centenary of Royal Arch Masonry in Toronto. The assemblage of Royal Craftsmen on this interesting occasion is admirably calculated to burnish the link which connects the present with the past, to brighten and preserve those animating recollections which the selfishness and cupidity of the world are prone to rust and corrode, and to enable us again to live over in imagination the events of the past which stand out as beacon lights on the promontories of time. Without recollection, what would we be? Like the brutes that go down to the dust and perish. Events create a nation and the recollection preserves it. So it is with our fraternity. If we want to be stimulated we must look to the past for that stimulation, and we get it from contemplating on the devotion of those faithful Companions who diligently labored in the quarries when they were more difficult to work than they are to-day.

For the purpose of making my address intelligible as well as interesting, I shall divide it into three parts: the past, the present, and the future of Royal Arch Masonry in Toronto.

As to the past, what is now the metropolitan city of the Province of Ontario was, one hundred and seven years

ago, only a wilderness, over which the Indians roamed in search of the wild fowl that darkened the waters of the bay. Bro. Governor Simcoe, in 1793, sailed from Niagara with a Company of the Queen's Rangers for the purpose of selecting "York" as a site for the future capital of Upper Canada. One of the first things undertaken upon the settlement of "York," now Toronto, was the formation of a Masonic Lodge called "Rawdon," named after Francis Lord Rawdon, Earl Moira, acting Grand Master of England between the years 1790 and 1812, and Grand Master of Scotland in 1806. Rawdon Lodge, No. 498, E. R., it is said worked from 1793 until 1800, when we come to the period of which we are interested as Royal Arch Masons.

The first recorded step towards the establishment of Royal Arch Masonry in "York," or Toronto, was on the 8th March, 1800, for the minutes of Rawdon Lodge of that date show, that on motion of Bro. Eliphalet Hale, it was Resolved, —"That Bro. John Starkweather (a carpenter by trade) should furnish the Lodge with a complete canopy, hangings and trimmings to complete the same and likewise a trunk to contain the Royal Arch furniture, the same to be completed as soon as possible, and the expense to be paid out of the funds of this Lodge by consent of all the members present." On the 22nd March, Bro. Starkweather was paid $20 for the Royal Arch furniture, and it was further Resolved,—"That the canopy be supported by two pillars."

Now the question arose among the brethren, what authority had they to convene a Chapter, for Rawdon Lodge being a Craft Lodge did not possess the power to confer the higher degrees; but as you are aware there were Blue Lodges then that did possess Royal Arch powers, and were distinguished by the appellation of "Royal Arch Lodges."

To gain the necessary authority to form a Chapter, at a meeting of Rawdon Lodge, held on the 3rd May, 1800, on motion of Bro. Hale, it was resolved to give up the "Prince's Warrant" and take out another from the Provincial Grand Master of Upper Canada.

To explain why it was called the "Prince's Warrant." All Lodges the same as Rawdon Lodge which had received its warrant from the "Moderns," or first Grand Lodge of England, were said to have worked under the "Prince's Warrant," after H. R. H. the Prince of Wales became Grand Master, in order to distinguish them from the "Athols" or

Ancient Masons, which had seceded from the authority of the Grand Lodge of England in 1739.

On the 24th May, 1800, the brethren of Rawdon Lodge surrendered their English Warrant into the hands of R. W. Bro. William Jarvis, Provincial Grand Master, and received from him a dispensation to open and work a Lodge, styled Royal Arch Lodge, No. 16. The Companions as well as the brethren continued to work thereunder, and on the 24th June, 1800, being the festival of "St. John the Baptist," the intermediate time having been occupied in enrolling the necessary number of Companions, they formally organized as "St. John's Chapter," and adopted by-laws for their government.

M. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson informs us in his valuable "History of Freemasonry in Canada," that "The Craft in York from 1797-1801, met at McDougall's hotel, on the south-east corner of King and Frederick streets, and after that date at Bro. William Cooper's house on Market street (Wellington), sixty feet west of the north-west corner of Market and Church streets, one door west of the Bank of Toronto building, or at Bro. Barrett's hotel, on the north-west corner of King and New (Jarvis) streets."

Royal Arch Lodge, No. 16, to which St. John's Chapter was attached, received its warrant on the 20th June, 1801, the W. M. mentioned in the warrant being W. Bro. Duke William Kendrick, an enthusiastic Mason of that period. In the body of the warrant there appears to be what may be deemed the Royal Arch power given to those to whom the warrant was granted.

"To make Freemasons according to the most ancient and honorable custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and nations throughout the world."

In 1804, the first move was made by the Royal Arch Masons of Upper Canada to place themselves under a separate organization or Grand Chapter, and separate the order from Craft Masonry, but nothing apparently was done until 1817, when a Convention was held at Kingston, which I will refer to later on.

During the war between Great Britain and the United States in 1812, and previous to that year, Masonry was in a quiet state, but in 1813, and 14, a revival took place and we find a number of candidates becoming connected with Royal Arch Lodge, No. 16, but generally speaking Royal Arch as well as Craft Masonry was not in a flourishing condition.

Let me digress for a moment. It was Royal Arch Lodge No. 16, to which St John's Chapter was attached, that erected the first building in Toronto for Masonic purposes in the year 1819 or thereabouts, at a cost it is said of $500. This building was situated on Market Lane, now Colborne street. The building was about "sixty-five feet long, thirty feet wide, and about twenty-five feet in height. It was constructed of half-inch clapboards, planed and painted a sort of bluish grey in color." The building was a two storey one, and at the eastern apex of the roof was a belfry, the bell of which was used for the purpose of calling the people to worship on the Sabbath Day. Thus we see religion and Masonry working harmoniously together in the early days of the century. The Lodge room was furnished with pine benches and the walls were plain white, and at the top of the landing was the door leading to the Lodge room at which the tyler stood. It was in this Hall that St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, the Mother Lodge of the existing Craft Lodges in Toronto, met for many years, and in which some of the brightest Masons of past days first received Masonic light.

On the 27th August, 1817, a Convention was held at Kingston, for the purpose of establishing a Grand Chapter in Upper Canada, and on the 19th February, 1818, the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Upper Canada was formed, duly consecrated and at once issued dispensations. The Principals of the Chapters were styled H.P. (High Priest), K. (King), and S. (Scribe), the intermediate degrees were made indispensable before exaltation, and the Royal Arch was styled "The Seventh Degree."

In the History of Frontenac Chapter of Kingston, we find recorded that the Chapters acknowledging the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, in the year 1819, were:

"Frontenac, No. 1, of Kingston; Union, No. 2, Ernestown; Sussex, No. 3, Brockville; St. John's, No. 4, York (Toronto); Fidelity, No. 5, Haldimand; Friendship, No. 6, Belleville."

Now having a governing body the various Chapters began to prosper "and many brethren of wealth and respectability were exalted and enrolled as members."

R. E. Comp. S. B. Harman, a distinguished Mason of his day, in his History of the Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, says:—

"The warrant numbered 'four,' issued by this the firs

Grand Chapter in Canada to St. John's Chapter (and which followed a dispensation of 1818), bears date the 9th February 1819." Permit me to say, this "Warrant which has been always jealously venerated by the Companions," is in possession of the Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John to-day, and is in a high state of preservation.

We find St. John's Chapter, No. 4, in 1819, by the formation of a Grand Chapter in Upper Canada, had become independent of its allegiance to Royal Arch Lodge, No. 16, and it will not be out of place for me to show now what became of the old Lodge which had introduced, through its members, Royal Arch Masonry in Toronto one hundred years ago.

In my History of St. Andrew's Lodge, Toronto, I say that "Royal Arch Lodge, No. 16, eventually merged into St. George's Lodge, No. 9, P.G.R., on the 23rd April, 1825, which Lodge, in 1829, became dormant and many of its members connected themselves with St. Andrew's Lodge." By this you will see how closely the history of the Mother Lodge of the Craft Lodges is connected with that of the Mother Chapter of the Royal Craft Chapters in Toronto.

Owing to the loss of some of its records, much information concerning the work of St. John's Chapter in the early years of its existence cannot be gleaned, but from the year 1841 they are continuous. On the 15th October, 1846, a notice of motion is recorded in its minutes as follows:

"That he (Comp. Robert McClure) would, at the next regular Convocation, move that application be made by this Chapter to the Grand Chapter of England for a warrant, and that the name of Comp. Thomas G. Ridout be inserted therein as the first officer."

There was a feeling among some of the Companions at this period to get an English warrant, so that they as a Chapter could become attached to St. Andrew's Lodge. Nothing apparently was done, however, until the 10th February, 1848, when the following resolution was adopted:

"That the Charter, jewels and all other property belonging to St. John's Chapter, No. 4, be transferred to St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 487."

On the 17th February, 1848, a Chapter of Emergency was held for the purpose of electing officers of St. Andrew's Chapter, at which Convocation, after the election, a com-

mittee was named to "Take the jewels of the order and make such alterations respecting them as might be deemed proper."

Of course this action on the part of the Companions necessitated a change in the ritualistic work of the Royal Craft, because they had been guided by the usage of the Chapter work in the United States, for under the new order of things they would have to adopt the English system.

The Companions scarcely gave the new system a trial before some of them desired to undo what had been done, for, passing a few unimportant meetings, "The minutes of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 487 (the new heading adopted in the old St. John's Chapter minute book), of the 10th August, 1848, record an Emergent Convocation, called 'To take into consideration the relinquishment or otherwise of the warrant lately obtained from the Grand Chapter of England.'" It was resolved at this Convocation:

"That all the resolutions or other entries on the minutes of this Chapter respecting transfer of the property, jewels, stocks, etc., formerly belonging to St. John's Chapter, be and the same are hereby declared expunged."

This resolution was not carried into effect, for at the next regular Convocation of the Chapter, held on the 19th October, upon the minutes of the 10th August being read, they were "Confirmed with the exception of" the foregoing resolution.

No further action was taken in the matter until the 12th October, 1849, when we find recorded the following memorial:

"We. the undersigned Companions, members of the late St. John's Chapter, No. 4, having the good of Masonry at heart, and jealous of the removal of our ancient landmarks, humbly send unto you greeting:

"Whereas, by the establishment of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 487, by virtue of a warrant from the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, the warrant, jewels and paraphernalia of St. John's, by vote of a majority of the Companions, became the property of St. Andrew's.

"And whereas many of the Companions distinctly understood that such adoption of the new warrant would not interfere with the essentials of the old working, voted accordingly, believing it to be substantially only a change of name. But having found that the adoption of the new warrant necessarily obliged a change of work, in conformity with that recognized

by the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, your memorialists, inasmuch as this change (in their opinion) causes the removal of many of the landmarks peculiar to ancient Royal Arch Masonry, they are convinced that no mere amalgamation that has, or can, or may take place, will supply that of which they complain.

"Therefore we, the undersigned Companions, being anxious to revive ancient Royal Arch Masonry as it worked under the warrant held by St. John's Chapter, No. 4, pray that the said warrant now in possession of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 487, be returned to us, in order that we may continue in Toronto Royal Arch Masonry according to ancient usage."

At an Emergent Convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter, called to consider the above memorial, it was resolved :—

"That the warrant of the late St. John's Chapter, No. 4, be returned to the petitioners" and "that the jewels, paraphernalia and furniture of St. Andrew's Chapter, No 487, formerly belonging to St. John's Chapter, No. 4, and voted to St. Andrew's Chapter, No 487, on Thursday, the 28th February, 1848, be returned to the petitioners." The old warrant of St. John's Chapter, No. 4, was then and there handed over to the petitioners, and thus the difficulty was concluded.

St. John's Chapter having re-organized under the old No. 4 warrant, continued working thereunder until 1854, when the minutes of the 21st September record the fact, that "Doubts for a considerable time had been thrown on the old warrant as to its validity, and the expediency of obtaining a warrant from the Grand Chapter of Scotland as the only preventive of that evil from which the Chapter and its subordinate lodges had of late been suffering, both in and out of doors," and a resolution was adopted empowering the first Principal "To take such further steps as he might deem necessary to accomplish the object in view."

The warrant from Scotland having been received on the 25th January, 1855, the following resolution was passed :—

"That inasmuch as the Companions of St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 4, have received and adopted a warrant from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland—'Be it resolved, that this Chapter henceforth be known and acknowledged as St. John's Royal Arch Chapter, No. 4, P. R., and No. 75, S. R., and that the seal of the Chapter be adopted for that purpose.'"

St. John's Chapter continued to work under the Scottish

Register until the amalgamation with St. Andrew's Chapter in 1870, which I will explain more fully in a few moments.

St. Andrew's Chapter, which was attached to St. Andrew's Lodge, worked under warrant No. 487, E. R., from 1848 to 1858, when it affiliated with the present Grand Chapter of Canada, and then it commenced to work under warrant No. 4, G.R.C., dated 8th March, 1860, which we are working under to-day.

I have now in my hand the original dispensation issued by M. Ex. Comp. Thompson Wilson, Grand First Principal, and signed by R. Ex. Comp. Thomas B. Harris, Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, to St. Andrew's Chapter, Toronto, on the 19th January, 1859. In the body of the document it is stated that St. Andrew's Chapter is applying for affiliation with the Grand Chapter of Canada. The dispensation is in good condition and should be framed.

In the year 1800 we have seen how St. John's Royal Arch Chapter originated from a Blue Lodge, and in the year 1856 we find the very opposite. The Companions of St. John's Chapter, desiring to establish a Blue Lodge in connection with the Chapter, petitioned for a warrant, which was granted on the 5th December, 1856, to a Lodge known as St. John's, No. 55, P.R., which was duly consecrated. That lodge to-day is a well-known flourishing Toronto Lodge, known as St. John's Lodge, No. 75, G.R.C., to which a number of the best workers of the Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John belong.

In the year 1860, there was attached to St. John's Royal Arch Chapter a "Royal Ark Lodge," which had the power to confer the degree of the "Royal Ark Mariner." The ceremony was styled "Elevation." This degree is still in existence in England and Scotland, I understand, although not in Canada. The following certificate printed upon parchment was recently shown to me by R. Ex. Comp. J. W. Jones, District Superintendent, and conclusively goes to prove what I have stated.

"Royal Ark Lodge, held in the Royal Arch Chapter o St. John's, Toronto, No. 75, Bro. Philander Merwin Clarke has been admitted a Member of said Lodge, October 25th, 1860. Signed A. DeGrassie, Z., Thomas Gundry, N., Wm. Hewett, Sec."

The seal of the Lodge, which was impressed on green paper and pasted on the lower left hand corner of the certifi-

cate, was an Ark with the following words surrounding it :— "St. John's, Toronto Royal Ark Lodge, No. 75."

The first convention for the formation of the present Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry in Canada was held on the 19th January, 1857, at Hamilton, and it was shortly afterwards organized, the first Grand Z. being M. E. Comp. W. M. Wilson, and Grand Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Thomas B. Harris, two distinguished Masons in their day. I might state here that to make the ritualistic work of Royal Arch Masonry in Canada assimilate with that of the United States, the three degrees not recognized by the Grand Chapter of England, the Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, were introduced.

In 1859 St. Andrew's Chapter was in a good condition financially, and having a membership of eighty-eight. After a vigorous career for many years, its progress came to a standstill, and from 1864 to 1868, the Chapter was practically dormant. In the fall of 1868, however, an energetic movement took place, and the Chapter once more became in a prosperous condition.

It was deemed advisable at this time for St. John's Chapter to unite with St. Andrew's Chapter and a special emergent convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter was summoned for the 27th May, 1870. As the summons convening the emergent convocation is of special interest I shall read it pretty fully.

"Dear Sir and Companion,—A special Emergent Convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter will be held on Friday evening, the 27th inst., at half past seven o'clock, at which your attendance is particularly desired. To the summons for the regular Communication of this Chapter on the 22nd of April, a notification was appended that matters connected with the proposed union with St. John's Chapter, No. 75, G. R., Scotland, would be brought forward. In issuing the present summons, it is deemed advisable to furnish you with a resumé, as well with regard to what has taken place, as of what still remains to be done, to accomplish this most interesting Masonic movement. It has been long felt that it was undesirable to have Chapters continuing to work under other jurisdictions than that now established in due form as the government body in Capitular Masonry in Canada, 'The Grand Chapter of Canada.' At the same time, on the organization of that Supreme Body, it was determined to respect the preference of any Chapter to adhere to their old

warrant, until such a time as they desired themselves to surrender the same, and thus regarded the above named Chapter of St. John, No. 75, G.R.S., has continued both to carry on a good work for many years, and to maintain the most friendly relation with other Chapters. The revival of St. Andrew's Chapter seems to have furnished to St. John's Chapter the opportunity for such surrender, for shortly after its happy and successful consummation during the past year, some of our members meeting their Companions of St. John's, the question of amalgamation of the two Chapters was mutually introduced, and from the Masonic and fraternal spirit in which the same was discussed, its feasibility seemed so probable, that at the January meetings of both Chapters, committees were simultaneously appointed to meet, deliberate, and report on the subject, as the result of which deliberations, the following report was presented to St. Andrew's Chapter, at our last meeting: Your Committee, appointed by St. John's Chapter, No. 75, G.R.S., in reference to a scheme for the amalgamation of the two Chapters, beg to report as follows :—

"That after full discussion, the joint Committees unanimously resolved to recommend a union of the two Chapters on the following basis :—First, the members of St. John's Chapter to become members of St. Andrew's Chapter by a formal vote. Secondly, the name of the Chapter, to be thenceforth changed to that of 'The Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John.' Thirdly, a new roll to be prepared, placing members of both Chapters according to the date of their exaltation, such roll to be thenceforth the roll of the united Chapter. Fourthly, it was proposed by the officers of St. Andrew's Chapter present at the meeting that they should all resign their offices, and a new election take place immediately after the union is consummated, and this was understood to be one of the conditions of the agreement. Your Committee have much pleasure in reporting that, since their meeting, these terms of union have been unanimously adopted by St. John's Chapter. The above report having been presented by St. Andrew's Chapter, on the 22nd of April, Comp. Kerr gave notice that he would, at an Emergent meeting, which the First Principal was requested to call at an early day, move that the members of this Chapter do agree to the amalgamation of St. John's Chapter, No. 75, G. R. S., with this Chapter upon the basis of the report of the Committee of the Chapter just received and adopted."

The Chapters became amalgamated, but I notice no change was made upon the face of the warrant as originally isssued to St. Andrew's Chapter on the 8th March, 1860, by the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In the first by-laws of the united Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, sanctioned by the Grand Z., M. Ex. Comp. T. D. Harington on 6th April, 1871, Article 1, reads as follows :—

"This Chapter shall henceforth be known as the Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, G.R.C., in perpetual commemoration of the happy union consummated on the 27th day of May, A.D. 1870, between the St. Andrew's Chapter, heretofore attached to St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 487, on the Grand Registry of England, until enrolled by the above No. 4, G.R.C., on the erection of the Grand Chapter of Canada, heretofore No. 75, on the Grand Registry of Scotland, both said Chapters having a common origin in the old St. John's Chapter, long known as No. 4, P.R., and founded in Toronto in the opening year of this century, A.D. 1800."

This shows that the Companion in 1871 looked upon this Chapter as being the direct outcome of old St. John's Chapter which existed in this city then known as "York" one hundred years ago. The name of the united Chapter in my opinion should have been the "Royal Arch Chapter of St. John and St. Andrew," as St. John's was clearly the oldest Chapter of the two, but apparently the wish of the Companions of St. Andrew's Chapter was acceded to in having their Chapter's name come first.

The wisdom displayed by the Companions of that period in having the Chapters amalgamate has been fully demonstrated, for we have to-day a united Chapter, whose membership is a great factor in upholding the dignity of the Royal Craft in Toronto and in fact throughout Canada.

Let us for one moment look at the class of men who were connected with these old Chapters previous to 1870.

Ex. Comp. T. G. Ridout, cashier of the Upper Canada Bank for many years, and a man to whom Masonry is greatly indebted for the position it occupies in Toronto to-day, was Z. of St. Andrew's Chapter from 1848 to 1855.

Ex. Comp. Dr. Alex. Burnside, the founder of the Burnside Lying-in Hospital, and a prominent citizen of Toronto in his day. He was H. P. of St. John's Chapter in 1841.

Ex. Comp F. W. Barron, Principal of Upper Canada

College for many years, and a most enthusiastic Mason in his time, was H. of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1856.

Comp. Rice Lewis, founder of the Rice Lewis Company, Toronto, was a faithful member of the Chapter in his day.

R. E. Comp. Kivas Tully, our well-known Government Engineer, to whom we are greatly indebted for the harmonious feeling that exists among the various branches of Masonry in Canada to-day, because he was one of those men who agitated for years before the organization of the present Grand Lodge of Canada was effected, was a member of old St. John's Chapter in the forties.

Ex. Comp. Frederick Cumberland, who had charge of the building of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto University, and other important buildings in Toronto and was the first Colonel of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, was J. of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1858.

Ex. Comp. W. G. Storm, a talented draughtsman in his day and who had charge of the building of the Normal School, Victoria College and other public buildings in Toronto, was Z. of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1862.

R. Ex. Comp. Francis Richardson, Provincial Grand Secretary of Craft Masonry for many years and the first W. M. of Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto, was Z. of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1856-58-61.

R. Ex. Comp. S. B. Harman, Mayor of Toronto in 1869, and City Treasurer for a number of years, was Z. of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1859, '60, '70, and the first Z. of the United Chapters of St. Andrew and St. John in 1870.

Comp. Senator J. R. Gowan, the oldest living Canadian Mason to-day in Canada, and a man whom to know is to love, was a member of St. John's Chapter in the forties.

Comp. J. G. Howard, the well-known Toronto architect, whose name will become more revered among the citizens of Toronto as years go by for his magnificent gift to the city of High Park and a valuable collection of paintings, books, etc , was a member of St. Andrew's Chapter for many years.

Comp. Æmilius Irving, Q.C., Treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada and a most estimable man and Mason, was a member of St. John's Chapter in 1846.

Comp. Nicol Kingsmill, Q.C., the well-known Railway lawyer, was a member of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1861.

Comp. A. R. Boswell, Q.C., Mayor of Toronto in 1883-4 was a member of St. Andrew's Chapter in 1868.

M. E. Comp. T. D. Harington and R. E. Comp. J. K. Kerr, Q.C., the former being a Past Grand Z., and the latter a Past Grand J., of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and both being Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Canada, were connected with St. Andrew's Chapter many years ago, and R. E. Comp. J. K. Kerr still retains his connection with the Chapter.

I could go on enumerating the names of distinguished Companions who were connected with Royal Arch Masonry in days gone by, and some who are living, we are proud to say, are still connected with it.

Permit me to interject here that associated with many of these Companions in Craft Masonry was Bro. Dr. John King, a professor of medicine in the Toronto University, who subsequent to his death on the 12th January, 1857, had a tablet erected to his memory in St. Michael's Cathedral. The tablet can be seen in that church to-day beneath the tower and spire whose gilded cross is said to contain a veritable portion of the original cross of Calvary sent to Canada by one of the Popes for this particular Cathedral. The inscription on the tablet reads as follows :

"Sacred to the memory of John King, M.D., late Professor of Medicine in Toronto University, who died on the 12th January, 1857, after a long and painful illness, aged 53 years." Then follows several lines of verse extolling his virtues.

We shall now briefly look at the history of the other Chapters of the Toronto District, but before doing so, I desire to refer to a Chapter called "Ionic Chapter," which was attached to Ionic Lodge, No. 798, E. R., and No. 25, G. R. C. This Chapter had an ephemeral existence. Its first Z. was the late R. E. Comp. Francis Richardson. It is claimed that this Chapter was instituted about 1848, or thereabouts, although I find it recorded in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada, that at an especial Convocation held at Toronto in 1858, it was represented as well as St. Andrew's Chapter.

Then King Solomon's Chapter. The dispensation to this Chapter was issued on the 18th May, 1857. It was at first suggested to have it named "St. John's," but this suggestion was never carried out. R. Ex. Comp. Harman has stated that it was established on the 9th July, 1857, and was numbered 22, G. R. C., originally ; this would show a connection

with King Solomon's Lodge. Its first Z. was Ex. Comp. Geo. L. Allen, and in the same year 1857, M. E. Comp. Kivas Tully was elected and he held the position of Z. until 1860. In 1852-3, M. Ex. Comp. Tully was H. P. of St. John's Chapter, No. 4, G. R. C., and in 1859, he was Grand Superintendent of Toronto District. He is also a Past Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada. In 1859 King Solomon's Chapter had 42 members. The warrant it is now working under is No. 8, G. R. C., and is dated 8th March, 1860.

Then there is Doric Chapter, No. 60, G. R. C., Newmarket, which was organized on the 6th August, 1874, the first Z. being Ex. Comp. A. M. Hood.

During the same year York Chapter, No. 62, G. R. C., was warranted, the first Z. being the late R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry. R. Ex. Comp. William Roaf is a distinguished member of this Chapter.

On the 10th April, 1875, St. Paul's Chapter was instituted under the name of "Ontario Chapter"; its warrant is dated 11th August, 1875, and its first Z. was the late R. Ex. Comp. T. F. Blackwood.

Occident Chapter, No. 77, was established August 27th, 1877, the first Z. being Ex. Comp. James Wilson, formerly a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John.

During the same year Orient Chapter, No. 79, G. R. C., was organized to meet at Don Mount. The first meeting was held 23rd March, 1877; R. E. Comp. Daniel Spry was its first Z. This Chapter met in Toronto Street hall then in a hall in Victoria Street and subsequently over the Don river, and has had a most distinguished array of Companions connected with it.

Antiquity Chapter, No. 91, G.R.C., was warranted in July, 1884, under the name of "Parkdale Chapter," and in 1886, the name was changed to Antiquity Chapter. The first Z. was the late Ex. Comp. John Inglis, and the H. of the Chapter was our esteemed Grand Scribe E., R. Ex. Comp. Geo. J. Bennett.

Now through all the difficulties of the past our Royal Craft with the assistance of the Chapters named, has held her steady course in this the "Queen City of Canada—the torch of Brotherhood aflame at her prow—her scarlet banner floating from the mast, on which is emblazoned in letters of burnished

gold, "Fraternity, Equality, Loyalty." A fraternity without creed, an equality with manliness, and a loyalty to truth and our country.

Thus does Royal Arch Masonry ever pursue its onward voyage. Whenever Companions meet, in peaceful halls, on tented field, in prison cell, by beds of death, ever the mystic tie is felt. Hand clasps to hand, heart speaks to heart and oft the foe of to-day becomes the friend of to-morrow. Thus does the true Masonic spirit better thrive in times of adversity even though the outward forms of ritual and ceremony are forgotten. Our Chapters are but the instruments with which the Royal Craftsman works for the betterment of himself and mankind.

Let us shortly review the strength of Capitular Masonry in Toronto at the present time under the guiding hand of R. E. Comp. J. W. Jones, Grand Superintendent of this District.

The Royal Arch Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John is ably presided over by our respected Ex. Comp. J. G. Boyce, and has upon its membership roll 117 Companions.

King Solomon's Chapter, which is progressing this year, under the energetic guidance of Ex. Comp. E. M. Carleton, has a membership of 186, and is the largest Chapter in the District.

Then Doric Chapter, Newmarket, is acceptably presided over by Ex. Comp. A. McClellan, and has a membership of 60.

York Chapter is under the guiding hand of Ex. Comp. C. Moseley, with 37 Companions enrolled upon its register.

Ex. Comp. E. B. Brown is looking after the interest of St. Paul's Chapter with a membership of 106.

Occident Chapter is progressing safely under the skilful guidance of Ex. Comp. Geo. K. Clemens, its membership being about 80.

Orient Chapter is piloted by Ex. Comp. E. Herbert Briggs, with a membership of 78.

Antiquity Chapter is under the guiding eye of Ex. Comp W. A. Lake, and has a membership of 90.

We have then an active Royal Arch membership in this jurisdiction this year of 748 Companions. In 1800 there were about 12, as near as I can get to it, of active Royal Arch Masons in "York" or Toronto, thus we have an increase of 736 in one hundred years. I fully understand, of course, there

are many Royal Arch Masons unaffiliated in Toronto to-day, but I am only referring to those who have been interested enough in the welfare of the Royal Craft as to not have severed their connection with it.

The question, Companions, for us to ponder over at the present time then is, are we individually doing our duty to the Royal Craft? My advice is, let us cast aside that lethargic condition which now permeates Capitular Masonry in this city, and manifest the same spirit of energy in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry that animated the breasts of those Companions in days gone by.

The four large banners that we see hanging upon the walls of this Chapter room, and upon which are portrayed the lion, the ox, the eagle and the man, must have had a significant meaning to the Companions of Royal Arch Masonry in Toronto in its early days. When we carefully examine into their symbolism as explained to us during our exaltation we find four ideas presented to our view of what the Royal Craft should aspire to. First the idea of activity. The lion is almost ceaseless in his movements, and if the Royal Craft is to be powerful its members must be active. Here then we must have conveyed to our mind ceaseless, systematic, determined activity on the part of the Royal Craft. Not only does the lion represent activity, but also courage, and did not our Companions of past days possess courage when they worked so faithfully for the dissemination of the teachings of Capitular Masonry? The similitude of the ox then gives us another idea of what the organization ought to be. The ox teaches the lesson of power to do work patiently. If the strength of the organization is to be felt it can only be by a system of work combining activity and courage with patience. Thirdly there is the eagle. The eagle's power is a power which overcomes the storms and whirlwinds of the world and soars beyond them, and our fraternity has had, and still possesses that power. The needs of man first brought the fraternity into existence and since then through the storm and sunlight of time it has ever progressed onward and prospered. And what is the reason of its vitality to-day? Because its founder grounded it upon the rock of the Holy Scripture. Lastly, man, which represents the greatest power of all because of the strong inclination within his breast to know the great Jehovah, and to know Him we are taught by Capitular Masonry that we must become like Him, and thus in seeking to know the

Great I Am "we are made better men by our connection with the Royal Craft."

As to the future of Royal Arch Masonry. To-day in this beautiful Queen's City, dazed at its wonderful achievements and standing in awe at its magnificence, we find ourselves peering down the mystic avenues of the future lighting up with the dawning of a new century and asking ourselves, "What of the future of the Royal Craft?"

From the earliest dawn of history man has ever been a sociable being, imbued with social tastes and habits, animated by a desire for better and higher conditions that naturally attract him towards his fellow men in fraternal relations. Thus secret societies have existed in various forms in all ages. While we trace the birth of our Royal Craft into the dim vista of the past, where recorded history blends into legend and allegory, our fraternity, rich in its traditions, has survived through all the ages, adapting itself to the ever-changing conditions of society, growing in strength and numbers and extending its circle of moral influence in every direction, and will continue to flourish and fulfil its mission, if the same care is exercised in the future as in the past in the selection of the material for our Chapters.

Companions, as entered apprentices you have put on the lambskin or white leathern apron in token of your innocence and the purity of your intentions.

As fellow crafts by symbolic implements you have been taught to square your actions by the square of virtue.

As Master Masons high and solemn duties have been imposed upon you.

As Mark Masters you are to regulate your conduct so that it will stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square.

Those of you who are Past Masters have been taught the all-important duty of self government.

As Most Excellent Masters you are to dispense light and truth to your uninformed brethren.

As Companions of the Royal Arch you stand upon an elevation to which none should attain but those who have passed the ordeal of the most strict and rigid scrutiny.

Then, Companions, as Royal Arch Masons, let us ponder well the character we bear before the world. Forming a part in the tie of Universal Benevolence with which our Fraternity encircles the world it is especially appropriate at this time, when we are celebrating the Centenary of Royal Arch Masonry

in this beautiful city, to renew and strengthen our determination to make bright the link which we compose in the great chain of "Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth," by keeping it free alike from the rust and slothful indulgence and the canker of a spirit of uncharitableness. Let us, my Companions, be Royal Arch Masons, in spirit as well as in name. Then shall our Royal Craft flourish as the tree beside the fountain of waters, and it shall be said of it, by the common voice of mankind as it was prayed for in the Holy City by the Psalmist of old: "Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces," and thus will the Companions one hundred years hence be thankful for what we have done in passing the Royal Craft untarnished down to them.

ADDENDUM.

The following references to the deaths of Companions in the Niagara District were received too late to be included with the report of the Grand Superintendent of that District:

Obituaries.

During the past year death has chosen from our fraternity in this District the following Companions, who will long be held in loving remembrance in their respective Chapters:

No. 19, Mount Moriah Chapter, of St. Catharines, deplores the loss of Companion W. H. Read, who died Nov. 15th, 1900, at the age of 45. His was a mild temperament. Loved by all Masons, a kind father and husband and a good citizen. He was a Past Master of his Lodge and was exalted in 1873. For a number of years before his death he filled the office of S. E. with great credit to himself and the complete satisfaction of the Chapter.

No. 55, Niagara Chapter mourns the death of Companion Robert Fizette, who died Oct. 13th, 1900, at the age of 84. He was over 50 years a Mason, 25 of which he guarded the outer door in the Lodge and Chapter. He was exalted in 1873. He was buried with Masonic honors on Oct. 14th, 1900, Brethren and Companions being present from St. Catharines and adjoining Lodges.

No. 57, King Hiram Chapter mourns the loss of Companion Z. Edgar B. McRae.

No. 69, Grimsby Chapter, on Jan. 22nd, 1900, lost a bright and shining light in the death of Ex. Companion W. D. Forbes, only son of R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Forbes. His was an active Masonic career, and as a citizen one of our most promising young men. Raised to the sublime degree Sept. 17th, 1891, his active energy and interest in the craft was the means of his election as W. M., June, 1895, which office he filled for two years, conducting its affairs with the greatest credit to himself and the prosperity and satisfaction of the Lodge. He was exalted on April 18, 1894, and by special dispensation installed as Second Principal in 1898, and had he been spared would in due course have been called to rule over the Chapter, and from his known energy this would have been to its advantage. He was buried with Masonic honors on Jan. 25, 1900, in Queen's Lawn cemetery, Grimsby, with which his name will be ever associated, he being its principal promoter. To him we feel the following stanza applies :—

Where'er He sees a smile too bright,
Or heart too pure for taint or vice,
He bears it to that world of light
To dwell in Paradise.

No. 76, Mount Nebo Chapter, through the death of R. Ex. Companion George Hyatt, lost one of its most active members. As S. E. of that Chapter, Grand Superintendents invariably reported on the excellence of his attention to the duties of that office.

"At peace with all the world
They rest until the morn when sleepers all shall wake:
All's well, whichever side the grave for such as they
That morning light shall break.,'

We, too, shall come to that river side, one by one.

His Imperial Majesty,

Edward the Seventh

by the Grace of God, King of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain & Ireland, Defender of the Faith,
Emperor of India &c. &c.

The Excellent Principals, Officers and Companions of the GRAND CHAPTER of Canada, duly assembled in Annual Convocation at the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, desire to express the profound sorrow felt by the Companions of this GRAND CHAPTER of ROYAL ARCH MASONS at the death of our revered and beloved QUEEN, and to convey our deep sympathy to your Majesty in the loss of your beloved mother and Sovereign, and we further desire to convey the assurance of our loyalty and devotion to your Majesty's crown and person.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names and caused the seal of our GRAND CHAPTER to be affixed hereto, at the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, on this 23rd day of January, A.L.2431, A.D.1901.

Wm Gibson 33° Grand Z.

A. Shaw. Grand H.

Wm H. Wallace 33° Grand J.

Grand Scribe E. Geo H. Bennett

GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA

Toronto Photo Engraving Co. Limited Toronto

Grand Lodge Library
30005398